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Kent on Sunday

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A promise of help to those who believe suicide is the only way out

By Marijke Cox
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GRIEVING families living with the heartache of a loved one's suicide have backed moves to improve prevention services as figures reveal two people every week take their own lives in Kent.

Health chiefs in the county released the shocking statistics to coincide with this week's World Suicide Prevention Day, with the message: "You can recover from suicidal thoughts."

The figures reveal between 2009 and 2011, there were an average of 130 suicides a year in Kent and Medway.

Three-quarters of those are men, many in middle-age.

While they often believe they are escaping dire situations, they end up leaving a lifetime of misery for those left behind; frequently racked with guilt over their inability to save them.

The Government has now pledged to invest £1.5m nationally into research on how to prevent suicides and unveiled a strategy aiming to cut the suicide rate and support bereaved families.

Three months ago a heartbroken family from Beckenham called for a ban on pro-suicide sites after their 15-year-old daughter, Rosie Whitaker, threw herself in front of a train.

Days after her death it was discovered the teen, who was a pupil at Langley Park School for Girls in Beckenham, had visited websites promoting self harm and suicide, where people encouraged her to kill herself.

Her devastated family called for a ban on such sites.

"She was a well-balanced and well-loved young lady who had everything to live for," they said.

"However, during a period of stress

Continued on page 2

Picture: PAUL JERREAT



KIDNAP COUPLE SET SAIL AGAIN

OFF TO SEA: The Chandlers refuse to let Somali pirates spoil their life – **SEE INSIDE**

EDUCATION

Tiger school claws critics

TIGER Primary School chiefs have hit out at critics who say its opening this month could spell the end for other schools in and around Maidstone.

The first free school in Kent came under fire from the National Union of Teachers. The school insists it's top of the class. **PAGE 17**

CHARITY

Collections to get a boost

CHARITIES and amateur sports clubs are set to be given a much-needed boost by plans to change Gift Aid. It means anonymous donations will now be able to count towards reclaiming up to 20 per cent basic tax. It has been warmly welcomed by Dartford's MP and a Darenth charity. **PAGE 11**

SPORT

Tennis set for Murray test

ANDY Murray's success in winning the US Open this week is set to serve up a host of young talent into the county's tennis clubs. But one academy based in and around Tonbridge and Sevenoaks says hopes of capitalising on his success will be hit by Government sport funding cuts. **PAGE 15**

FOOTBALL FOR A FIVER
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INSIDE

- News. 2-25
- Comment/Feedback 26-27
- Kent Remembered 29
- Business Week. 30-31
- Training and careers 32-33
- Jobs & Notices. 34-40
- Sport. 62-63

INSIDE



PLUS: Seaside town cooks up a treat with annual food festival - food and drink p49 Challenger bank's bid to get property sales going - property p57 Audi's A3 has undergone an evolution - driving p61

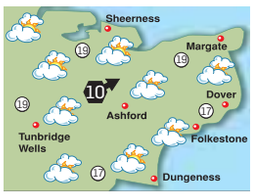
- Interview 43
- Food and Drink. 45

LEISURE
Attractions, events, stage, exhibitions, theatre, arts, ... 47-49

HOMES
- Property. 51-53

MOTORS
- Driving 55-61

Weather



TODAY: Dry with a few sunny intervals. Gentle south-westerly winds. Max temp 18-21C (64-70F). **TONIGHT:** Mainly dry and cloudy. Min temp 10-13C (50-55F).

TODAY'S HIGH TIDE (Metres)

Dover	11.46	6.9	–	–
Margate	00.35	4.8	12.52	4.8
St Mary's	05.26	5.7	17.43	5.9

WEEK AHEAD

Monday	Max 18C	Min 9C
Tuesday	Max 18C	Min 7C
Wednesday	Max 16C	Min 7C
Thursday	Max 16C	Min 7C
Friday	Max 16C	Min 8C
Saturday	Max 15C	Min 8C

Information supplied by MeteoGroup

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SUPPORT

The pain of suicide is felt forever by loved ones

Continued from front page

brought on by the pressures of conforming to her peer group and studying hard for GCSE exams, it appears she was, unfortunately, heavily influenced by websites and online communities promoting self-harm and suicide.

"We hope her tragic death serves as a warning to other impressionable youngsters and their parents that such sites pose grave risks."

Health chiefs in the county said access to support services was vital in helping to cope and find a way to survive.

Karen MacArthur, consultant in public health for NHS Kent and Medway, said: "Suicide prevention remains a high priority and we want to see a reduction in the number of deaths from suicide."

In an emotional interview, John Nicholson, well known for his tireless campaigning for better train services in Kent, opened up about the suicide of his father.

He said a support network for people at-risk of taking their own lives as well as bereaved families is crucial.

Mr Nicholson, 45, admitted he still struggles with his father's suicide 26 years on.

He was 17 when his father, 49, took his own life in January 1986. He had taken an overdose of alcohol and pills.

"One of the last times I saw him we had a bit of an argument," said Mr Nicholson.

"His suicide has always been a millstone around my neck, I blame myself, even though people say it's not my fault. My parents had been separated for five or six years which led to divorce and he was drinking.

"There were two people in that argument though and he died and I survived. As the survivor I had to grow up quickly.

"It had a huge impact on my life. I started to drink. I wanted to take my fury out on the world. I wasn't a nice person.

"I was trapped in sorrow and despair. It took meeting my wife to change things. But I still blame myself, I still cry.

"He was my dad. When he wasn't drinking he was a lovely man. But drink changed him. He was still my dad though."

Mr Nicholson said that while all death is hard, suicide leaves unanswered questions and – in his case – often misplaced guilt.

"I believe that some sort of support network for the people who are left behind would be an unimaginable help," he said.

"When someone commits suicide – when they are so desperate they take their own life – it's hard for the people left behind to cope.

"And for the people who are so desperate they want to commit suicide, people need to open their eyes to this.

"If someone has stress, it doesn't mean they're weak or incapable, it means they recognise their limits. Or if they have depression or a loss of control they need someone to stop them spiralling down."

Anyone feeling despair is encouraged to speak to a friend, family, doctor or Samaritans, available 24 hours a day on 08457 90 90 90, and at jo@samaritans.org.

Support is also available for people who have been bereaved at Cruse on 0844 477 9400 or at helpline@cruse.org.uk.

EVENTS

Visitors travel back in time at medieval castle

By Marijke Cox
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THOUSANDS travelled back in time to the 15th century as the grounds of Tonbridge Castle were transformed for the annual medieval fair.

Costumed characters entertained guests, demonstrating 600-year-old crafts, and visitors were treated to the tastes of medieval dishes at last weekend's event.

As well as filling up on hog roast and other culinary delights, visitors were able to have a go at archery, watch the static owl display and have their tarot cards read.

Jesters were on hand to keep spirits high as crowds flocked to the castle grounds.

On the castle lawn, living history group, Pelican-in-her-Piety, brought the sights and sounds of medieval England to life with vivid re-enactments of fighters meeting in combat.

Swords crashed onto armour, blades crunched on chainmail and the famous English longbow was prepared for action with arrows at the ready.

Medieval street band Rough Musicke entertained the crowds throughout the weekend playing tunes on traditional woodwind instruments.

Organised by Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council in partnership with J and J Events, the fair has become a popular listing on the Tonbridge events calendar and this year coincided with the nationwide Heritage Open Days so people got to visit Tonbridge Castle free of charge.

Cabinet member for leisure, Cllr Maria Heslop, said: "Medieval Tonbridge Castle makes the perfect setting for this authentic event and with the sun shining at last it was a perfect way to spend the day."



FUN FOR ALL: Youngsters got involved with the activities

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ENTERTAINMENT

Denise tipped to waltz off with Strictly crown as hit TV show returns

By Chris Britcher
chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

TV PRESENTER Denise van Outen has been unveiled as one of the competitors in BBC ratings-winner Strictly Come Dancing, which returns to our screens this weekend.

Ms van Outen who lives in a rural retreat near Biddenden, has also been swiftly installed as favourite by bookmakers.

A former host of Channel 4's Big Breakfast, she has gone on to enjoy a successful musical career including playing the role of Roxie Hart in the hit stage show Chicago.

A spokesman for bookies Ladbrokes said: "Denise was amazing in Chicago, which is why we believe she's such a shoo-in."

The blonde star is married to Lee Mead, winner of the BBC's search for a musical star, Any Dream Will Do.

The couple married in 2009, and have a daughter who was born in 2010.

The family were recently seen enjoying a family day-out at Port Lympne Wild Animal Park in Hythe.



But for now she will have to swap family life for a gruelling schedule of dance classes.

Other stars taking part include ex-England cricket captain Michael Vaughan, TV presenter Johnny Ball, Olympic stars Victoria Pendleton and Louis Smith, EastEnders actor Sid Owen, TV presenter Richard Arnold, Westlife's Nicky Byrne, soap star Lisa Riley, Girls Aloud singer Kimberly Walsh, model and Mick Jagger's ex, Jerry Hall, TV host Fern Britton, actor Colin Salmon and kids' TV star Dani Harmer.

The Kent connection continues with judge Len Goodman, who runs a ballroom dance school in Dartford and Anton du Beke, one of the principle dancers who grew up in Sevenoaks and still lives in west Kent.

The show is hosted by Tess Daly and Bruce Forsyth.

Mr Forsyth was one of the unlikely hits of this summer's Hop Farm Festival in Paddock Wood, when he made his first ever appearance at a festival, entertaining the crowds with a song and dance routine.

■ **Strictly Come Dancing is shown on BBC1 every Saturday night.**

Pictures: BBC



STAR TURNS: Contestant Denise van Outen and judge Len Goodman (left) ready to rumba

CAMP CLARY CLAIMS CELEBRITY BIG BROTHER CROWN

CHANNEL 5 reality TV show Celebrity Big Brother ended with success for Julian Clary.

The comedian, who lives in Aldington, near Ashford, was crowned victor after weeks of sharing the famous house with a host of well-known – and not so well-known – faces.

Emerging from the house, after triumphing in the public vote over housemates Martin Kemp, Coleen Nolan, Michael 'The Situation' Sorrentino, MC Harvey and Ashley McKenzie, he said: "I've never won anything in my life. You've made a 53-year-old homosexual very happy."



Former EastEnders star Cheryl Fergison was evicted from the show early in the series.

The actress is the star turn as the Fairy Godmother in the pantomime Cinderella at the Central Theatre in Chatham this Christmas.

CRIME

Abuser jailed in child sex case

A SICK 25-year-old is starting a three-year jail sentence this week after pleading guilty to multiple charges of child sex abuse and child porn offences.

Daniel Hamblin, of Rowan Tree Road, Tunbridge Wells, pleaded guilty in April before Sevenoaks magistrates to two counts of making indecent images of children, four counts of possessing indecent images of children, two counts of taking indecent images of children, two counts of engaging in sexual activity with a child, and one count of causing a child to be involved in prostitution or pornography.

He appeared again at Maidstone Crown Court where he was sentenced to prison.

The court heard how police discovered Hamblin had been downloading images of child abuse from the internet and conducted a search at his home in February.

Officers found evidence that not only had Hamblin been downloading images from the internet, but that he had also taken photos of a child victim on a mobile phone.

Officers found 37 still images graded between level one to four, and six movies between levels four and five. Level five is the most extreme.

Following his arrest, Hamblin admitted that over the past two years he had actively been searching for child abuse imagery while using file sharing software.

Investigating officer Det Con Jo Gordon said: "Hamblin preyed on an innocent child and supported his sexual appetites with indecent images from the internet, each of which represents another child being abused.

"I trust this sentence makes it clear that society will not accept the ongoing abuse of children and that we will do everything to track down and bring to justice those that seek to exploit children."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Stars pedal at Brands

JUST a week after taking centre stage with its cycle events for the Paralympic Games, race circuit Brands Hatch again welcomed pedal power for a star-studded charity event.

Cyclothon UK took place on Thursday – the 12-hour endurance team relay race featured a host of charity fundraisers, solo riders and celebrities in a road cycling event.

Among the stars were former England rugby players Victor Ubogu and Rory Underwood.

Brick hurled on M25

TWO men are being hunted by police after a brick was dropped onto a moving car as it travelled along the M25 last Sunday.

Georgina Hillier, 23, from Orpington was a passenger in a car as it drove beneath the Watling Street bridge in Dartford. The brick smashed the window, sending shards of glass into her eyes and wrists. She was taken to hospital for treatment. Two men were seen running away in the direction of Greenhithe.

Tennis pavilion blaze

FIRE crews spent nearly four hours bringing a blaze at a tennis pavilion under control in the early hours of Thursday.

Emergency teams were called at around 2am when a fire broke out at Kemsing Lawn Tennis Club in Heaversham Road.

Three fire engines tackled the blaze in the single-storey building which they eventually brought under control just before 6am.

No-one is believed to have been injured. An investigation into the cause of the fire is now under way.



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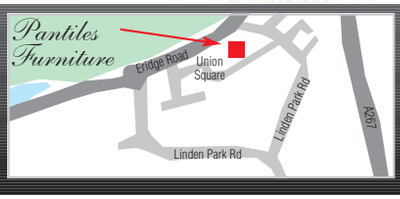
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CHANDLERS

Kidnap couple refuse to let the pirates beat them as they set sail for more adventures

By Chris Britcher
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THE couple who spent more than a year held at gunpoint by Somali pirates have set sail again on another around-the-world jaunt.

Last Saturday, Paul and Rachel Chandler, who own a property on Mount Ephraim in Tunbridge Wells, set sail once more, resuming the journey which was cut short in dramatic fashion in October, 2009.

And, incredibly, they set off from Dartmouth, in Devon, in the same beloved boat which was boarded by machine-gun wielding pirates, sparking an international incident three years ago.

The 38-ft Lynn Rival yacht had to be towed back to the UK after the Navy found the boat floating in the Indian Ocean following the couple's dramatic kidnapping at sea.

They were eventually freed only after their family paid a £625,000 ransom.

The retired couple had set sail from the Seychelles on the fateful journey, in water they believed to be safe, when they were boarded.

They were taken to Somalia and driven in-land where they were held for 388 days.

Before setting off again, Mrs Chandler said: "I never stopped wanting to go to sea. Sailing is our life so we had to return. I know some friends think we're mad and our family are apprehensive, but they understand why we must return."

This time, however, the couple have vowed not to venture close to the troubled waters of the Indian Ocean.

Mrs Chandler, 59, added: "Last time we were in the wrong place, at the wrong time."

There was no fanfare or crowds as the couple left the Devon town last weekend. It is believed they are travelling towards Spain before heading in the direction of Brazil.

The couple's property in Tunbridge Wells had been rented out prior to their 2009 trip. Upon their release, they were offered a hero's welcome by the town's mayor – instead they opted for a hush-hush visit to thank the town's chiefs for their support.

They have spent little time in the spa town since their return – instead staying with family and friends in the west country – and preparing their boat for its latest adventure on the high seas.

Picture: PAUL JERREAT



EXPLORING: Kidnap victims Rachel and Paul Chandler were held by Somali pirates for more than a year

NEWS IN BRIEF

Hill is new police boss

COUNTY councillor Mike Hill has been elected chairman of the soon-to-be-abolished Kent Police Authority – replacing long-standing chief, Ann Barnes.

The Conservative councillor had been temporary chair since Mrs Barnes announced her decision to quit in order to run for the job of Kent Police and Crime Commissioner. That role, to be elected by the public in November, will replace the KPA which oversees Kent Police.

Paralympic rail surge

RAIL operator Southeastern says there were 4.9 million passenger journeys made on its services during the recent London 2012 Paralympic Games.

That equates to an extra 100,000 passengers a day, and around a million journeys on the high-speed Javelin service.

Managing director Charles Horton said: "We'd like to thank passengers again for listening to the travel advice, for altering their journeys."

Rippon fire service praise

TV presenter Angela Rippon has thrown her support behind the Kent Fire and Rescue Service after it joined a national campaign to ensure Alzheimer's sufferers are not put at greater risk of serious injuries in their home.

Ms Rippon, ambassador for the Alzheimer's Society, said: "We are delighted Kent has signed up. With greater awareness we can all help ensure they can live a safe and happy life."

GOVERNMENT

Ex-KCC chief's new job to lead civil service reform

A CONTROVERSIAL former chief of Kent County Council – who left the authority under a cloud and clutching a £420,000 pay-off – has landed a top new civil service job, complete with six-figure salary.

Katherine Kerswell hit the headlines after she was made redundant from her role as KCC managing director in December, just 16 months after taking over the post.

Despite KCC initially refusing to reveal the terms of her pay-off, it was eventually confirmed she was paid £420,000 in a deal the Government minister Grant Shapps described as "disturbing and unacceptable".

But she has now landed a top role as director general for civil service reform in the Cabinet Office, where she will work alongside the head of the civil service, Sir Bob Kerslake.

The job comes with a £142,000 salary.

Her role will be to oversee the implementation of the civil service reform plan which was recently published.

The managing director role at KCC was scrapped after her departure, which followed months of speculation over her position.

During her short stint at County Hall she was a key architect of a major overhaul of its operation and oversaw a reshuffle that will result in up to 1,500 jobs going in 2015.

News of her new position was broken by the Local Government Chronicle which quoted her saying: "I am thrilled to join the civil service and contribute to such an important area of work as civil service reform.

"I am particularly keen to build upon what I have learnt in local government, about how to make change take root and really happen with urgency and pace."



QUIDS IN: New top job for the former managing director of Kent County Council, Katherine Kerswell

Sir Bob said: "Katherine is an accomplished leader with a track record of successful change management in the wider public sector.

"I know that her skills and experience will be ideally suited to the role."

And Cabinet Office minister Francis Maude told the paper: "The civil service reform plan we published in June set out our first steps to reform the civil service to ensure it can effectively serve the government of the day. We have a long way still to go to sharpen accountability, collect consistent management information and improve how government runs its major projects.

"Katherine brings experience and expertise to this crucial role and I look forward to working with her as she implements the reform plan.

"We will continue to draw on ideas and insights from civil servants, senior officials and ministers as we work to improve the civil service."

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HEALTH

Public meeting on mental health

MEMBERS of the public have been invited to have their say on plans to improve care for people experiencing a mental health crisis.

A public meeting is being held at Maidstone Community Centre in Marsham Street, on Tuesday, September 18, from 2-5pm. It will be attended by mental health consultants and NHS managers who will outline the plans.

Health chiefs launched a three-month consultation in July after a review of services by NHS Kent and Medway, which plans and buys mental health services, and Kent and Medway NHS and Social Partnership Trust, which provides crisis care.

They said the review found there are not enough hospital beds in east Kent, unsuitable inpatient services in Medway, and that better psychiatric intensive outreach services are needed in east Kent.

The NHS wants to hear the public's view on plans to treat people in centres of excellence in Dartford, Maidstone and Canterbury.

WILDLIFE

Patient youngster snaps bird in flight to win photography prize

By Marijke Cox
marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

AN ASTONISHING picture of a chaffinch taken by an eight-year-old boy has been selected as one of the year's best wildlife photographs.

William Briggs, from Groombridge, near Tunbridge Wells, was praised for his stunning image, called Male Chaffinch Coming in to Land, which won the 11 years and under category in the British Wildlife Photography Awards 2012.

His photographer father Martin said the youngster had sat for an hour waiting to capture the perfect shot.

"For my son to sit there for that long is amazing, he doesn't usually sit still," he said. "He's always been interested in photography; he has one of those small children's cameras but he used one of mine for this.

"Once he knew the bird was landing in the tree's feeding station he sat there and pre-focused the camera. He took about 80 pictures and of those one was that shot.

"He was dead chuffed when he won."

Mr Briggs said his son had developed a real passion for photography.

"It's all he ever goes on about. He wants to start taking pictures underwater and he's had snorkelling lessons so the next step is buying underwater housing for the cameras.

"He loves underwater photography and loved the winning image with the gannets."

The picture, called Gannet Jacuzzi, was taken by marine biologist Dr Matt Doggett in the Atlantic and scooped the overall winner prize.

Other winners were Neil McIntyre for his Red Deer Stag in Pine Forest, and Amanda Hayes' Herring Gull Plucking Puffin from the Ground.

The winners scooped cash prizes and their images will be featured in British Wildlife Photography Awards Collection 3 book (£25).



PORTRAIT: Red Deer Stag in Pine Forest by Neil McIntyre, above is the collection book







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NHS Trust

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Tuesday, 18 September, 3 to 5pm
Northgate Ward Community Centre,
Military Road, Canterbury, CT1 1YX

Friday, 21 September, 4 to 6pm
Maidstone Community Support Centre,
Marsham Street, Maidstone, ME14 1HH

Tuesday, 2 October, 7 to 9pm
Mercure Tunbridge Wells Hotel, 8 Tonbridge Road,
Pembury, Tunbridge Wells, TN2 4QL

You can sign up to become a member and also take part in our public consultation, which runs until Monday, 22 October.

Sign up at **www.kentcht.nhs.uk** or phone **01622 211970**.

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THE BEST: Clockwise from left: Male Chaffinch Coming in to Land by William Briggs; Gannet Jacuzzi, by marine biologist Dr Matt Doggett; and Herring Gull Plucking Puffin from the Ground by Amanda Hayes

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ANIMAL CRUELTY

Dog owner escapes jail after letting pup starve to death in infested cage

By Marijke Cox & Dean Kilpatrick
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A CRUEL dog owner who starved her German shepherd to death in a tiny cage surrounded by maggots and excrement has avoided jail.

Stacey Lockhurst, of Forest Road, Erith, kept her puppy in a squalid cage with no food for seven months.

The 27-year-old was given a 20-week prison sentence, suspended for a year, for her treatment of the dog, which was named Jack, and banned from keeping animals for life.

RSPCA investigators first visited her former home in Erith in October, 2010, when Jack was just 16 weeks old.

Despite trying to persuade Lockhurst and her partner Paul Brunsden to hand Jack over so he could go to a loving new home, the couple refused and as the dog was healthy the RSPCA had no powers to remove him by force.

But when inspectors were next called Jack was dead. His container was infested with maggots and flies, and a water bowl was full of excrement.

A post-mortem examination found the dog was emaciated and had died of starvation.

The examining vet said Jack had "suffered greatly and unnecessarily for a great period of time".

Lockhurst was found guilty at Dartford Magistrates' Court of causing unnecessary suffering to the dog and not addressing his rapid weight loss.

COUNTY SEES AN ALARMING RISE IN ANIMAL CRUELTY



THIS is just one of the many examples of cruelty inflicted upon innocent animals.

Earlier this year animal charity RSPCA reported a rise of almost a quarter nationally in the number of people convicted of cruelty and neglect.

Kent has seen horrific cases in the last year: a cat being swung around by its tail in Ramsgate; abandoned rabbits with their ears chopped off in Birchington; and a dog in Welling being brutally kicked by its owner.

The RSPCA is urging people to report any concerns they have about an animal being neglected or cruelly treated.

RSPCA chief executive Gavin Grant admitted the charity faced a crisis that was "stretching it to breaking point" despite some amazing stories of survival by animals.

A RSPCA spokeswoman said: "If anyone is concerned about an animal being cruelly treated call the RSPCA on 0300 1234999."

District Judge Michael Kelly described the case as "particularly bad", but said Lockhurst, who has learning difficulties, had been "influenced to an extent".

Brunsden, 25, was jailed for 20 weeks and also banned for life from keeping animals when he appeared in court last month.

Lockhurst was also ordered to do 200 hours of unpaid work and pay £200 court costs.

Protesters had campaigned outside the court.



CRUEL: X-ray shows the damage to Charlie's leg

Family cat is put down after being shot twice

A FAMILY has been left devastated because their pet cat had to be put down after being shot several times with an air rifle.

The owner of a ginger tom named Charlie has spoken of his shock of the incident after finding the cat near his doorstep.

Gary Giddings, from Herne Bay, found his two-and-a-half-year-old cat unable to walk, and later discovered he had been shot twice, and his back leg smashed.

Charlie has been shot twice before six months ago, but Mr Giddings cannot understand why the loved family cat was targeted.

He said: "He was quite a wild cat at heart, but he loved his home life and he loved us. I just don't understand why someone would do what they did. We have no idea why this has happened."

The cat was shot in the area of the town around Callard Close and Mickleburgh Avenue between September 3 and 4.

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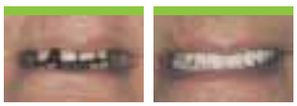
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GIFT AID

Charities could be in line for a vital cash boost if law changes approved

By Dean Kilpatrick
dean.kilpatrick@archant.co.uk

SMALL charities and amateur sports clubs are set to benefit from changes to fundraising laws, potentially delivering a much-needed boost to their collection efforts.

The Small Charitable Donations Bill, which is currently going through Parliament, sets out proposals to allow charities to claim up to £1,250 in Gift Aid without providing details of its donors.

Currently Gift Aid can only be claimed if details of the donor, who are already UK taxpayers, are revealed.

Charities or amateur sports clubs can then reclaim the basic rate of tax from HM Revenues & Customs on its gross equivalent. In short, it means if you donate £10 and provide your details, your donation is worth £12.50 to the charity.

However, the proposed changes would allow anonymous donations to also benefit.

Dartford MP Gareth Johnson has backed the motion.

He said: "Small, anonymous donations are increasingly important to charities that are trying to raise support during a recession.

"At present, tin-rattling fundraisers, who often work at the coal face for the charitable sector, could miss out so I am pleased that will change under the bill."

Charities such as Arrow Riding Centre for the Disabled in Darenth are set to gain from the Gift Aid proposals, and welcome the bid to increase their funding.

Volunteer treasurer Ken Blake said: "Anything like that is going to be an advantage to us. We have quite a few collection boxes in the area, and we get a total of around £1,000-£2,000, so it will bring in an extra couple of hundred pounds.

"With the money we have to spend to run, it's not going to make a huge difference, but we're the kind of organisation where if someone gives us a fiver, we're very appreciative."

The organisation has yearly running costs of £150,000, with £60,000 of that coming from donations. It was cited by the Dartford Conservative MP in the Commons.

Mr Johnson said: "At present, we are seeing smaller charities like the Arrow Riding Centre disadvantaged because they rely on small cash donations which are not eligible for Gift Aid. The great news is that the new scheme will also apply to community amateur sports clubs, so local groups will be able to take advantage, too.

"I hope people will be encouraged to donate generously in the knowledge that the money they give will be worth even more."

Warnings have been made that measures will be in place to ensure fraudulent Gift Aid claims are not paid.



MORE MONEY: The new law would increase the value of street collection box donations by a quarter

The bill is set to return to Parliament for its second reading following a public reading stage.

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News

ENTERTAINMENT

Life is pain for Davies, but it's a good reason to get back on stage

By Marijke Cox
marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

HE'S the much-loved, curly-haired magician-cum-detective in cult BBC series Jonathan Creek, and probably better known as the mischievous panellist on the comedy quiz show QI.

But comedian Alan Davies is returning to where it all started, back to the stage and his stand-up roots after almost a decade away from the circuit.

Touring the country with his new show Life is Pain, the 46-year-old, who studied at the University of Kent in Canterbury and later moved to Whitstable, will be performing at venues in Dartford and Chatham. He also played at Assembly Hall in Tunbridge Wells on Thursday.

Speaking to KoS ahead of the show, he said: "I'm looking forward to coming to Kent. I enjoyed my time there and still come back as I have friends in Whitstable.

"I lived on campus in Canterbury when I was at university and then I lived in Whitstable. It was different then, no-one had come down from London like now.

"We used to go and sit outside The Neptune [pub] on the beach. We'd go up to Gillingham or down to Margate – it was great. When I was a kid I used to go to Broadstairs."

It's been almost a decade since the funnyman, who lives in north London with his wife and two children, took to the stand-up stage.

It was only after he spent time in Australia last year with Stephen Fry doing QI that he decided to get back on the circuit.

"I did QI live in three clubs and loved being back on stage, so I started to get some material together," said Davies.

"I did what they call work-in-progress shows – a lot of comedians do this stuff. I go on stage with notes in my hand and try stuff out.

"People come along knowing it might be rubbish. It took me a couple of weeks to get something together and that's how I got my show."

Life is Pain, he says, focuses on difficulties in the life, including being a parent and the perils of social networking.

It also touches briefly on the death of his mother when he was just six-years old.

"I heard a little girl being told off by her mother and she said 'life is pain' – I made a note of it and it became a bit of a theme in the show.

"Life is quite difficult; being a parent, being a son, all of these things are familiar to people.

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Picture: TONY BRIGGS



I heard a little girl being told off by her mother and she said 'life is pain' – I made a note of it and it became a bit of a theme in the show

ALAN DAVIES, ON HIS NEW STAND-UP ACT

"If people like QI and think I'm funny then they should come along and see the show."

Asked whether he was nervous about getting back on the stage after so long, he said: "I'm very excited and raring to go. Stand-up is all about just you and the audience. I really enjoy it.

"The only thing I find hard is being away from my family. I do about three or four gigs a week, any more than that and I wouldn't see my kids."

Aside from stand-up – which he started doing in Kent in the late 1980s (his first show was at the Labour Club in Whitstable in 1988) – Davies also forged a successful career in TV.

Best known for his lead role in hit BBC drama Jonathan Creek, Davies also played the title role in ITV comedy Bob and Rose about a gay man falling in love with a woman.

He went on to play a chef in BBC comedy Whites, but it was cancelled after the first series; a decision which infuriated the comic and its legions of fans.

Unperturbed by the set back, Davies said he would love to get back in front of the camera in an acting role.

"I'm always on the lookout for parts," he said.

"There is a script written for a one-off special for Jonathan Creek, which I would love to do, but I'll have to wait and see."

■ Life is Pain is at the Orchard Theatre in Dartford on Thursday, October 2, www.orchardtheatre.co.uk; and the Central Theatre Chatham on Thursday, November 22, www.medway.gov.uk/theatres.



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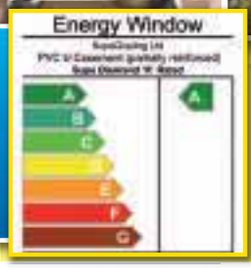
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SPORT

Is there enough sports funding to serve up the next Andy Murray?

By Dean Kilpatrick
dean.kilpatrick@archant.co.uk

THE chief of one of the county's top tennis academies has fired a broadside at the Government for funding cuts hindering the development of future heroes like Andy Murray, as the nation celebrates its first men's Grand Slam champion for 76 years.

The 25-year-old's thrilling five-set success at Flushing Meadow in New York, when he claimed victory at the US Open on Monday provide a fitting finale to what has been a great summer of sport.

But amid hopes the Scot's win will open the doors for a flood of future young talent, Jo Powlson, director of the Sevenoaks-based Tennis Academy, which operates at sites in Tonbridge, Kemsing, Knockholt, Hildenborough and Hartley, said while the enthusiasm was there, the cash wasn't.

She explained: "I think we have a lot of talented youngsters playing tennis, but where we struggle is retaining children in the game.

"It's a shame in the year of the Olympics that the Government is cutting a lot of funding for sport, and it's really bad news for tennis.

"Hopefully, Murray's success will keep youngsters interested and involved in the sport."

Concerns were first raised two years ago when education



Picture: CARINE06

VICTORY: Andy Murray won the US Open, but without sport funding it is feared there will be no British stars to follow him

secretary Michael Gove slashed funding for school sports partnerships, which reduced the quality and range of coaching available in schools, in addition to dropping the amount of required sport and PE in the school week.

There has been further condemnation of the Government's sale of school playing fields.

Faversham and Mid-Kent MP and sports minister, Hugh Robertson, admitted in 2010 that community sport would take a "major hit" as a result of the cuts.

These include new sports facilites being scrapped under the Building Schools for the Future programme, cuts to local authority budgets, and the Department for Culture, Media and Sport facing a budget cut of £2 billion.

Mr Robertson said: "This is a difficult time and sport will take a major hit across the country."

Andy Murray's success caps a remarkable year for Britain's number one, having already reached the Wimbledon final and won gold in the Olympics.

His impact is already being seen among youngsters, the trick for everyone involved in the game now is retaining the talent and developing it.

Nick Wibberley is a coach at Faversham Tennis Club. He explained: "The more people see the success, the more attention the sport will get, which means it'll be spoken about in playgrounds and between friends."

The club recently held an open day which attracted 100 youngsters.

Mr Wibberley added: "There is a perception around that tennis is expensive, but it is affordable and we want to show that the sport is more accessible than people think."

Nick Skelton, head coach at Hythe Lawn Tennis Club, welcomed the 25-year-old's success this week and hoped it would usher in more British talent to eventually take Murray's place at the very top of the game.

He added: "Murray has been all over the front pages and that's bound to stir interest in tennis and more people wanting to be involved in the sport.

"The more people you have playing tennis, the more talent will come through and excel."

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EDUCATION

Tiger staff bite back at claims free school isn't top of the class

By Chris Britcher
chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

SENIOR staff at the county's first free school have slammed critics who called into question its longevity and accused it of putting neighbouring schools at risk of closure.

Tiger Primary in Loose opened earlier this month, offering a curriculum which includes teaching Mandarin.

It is the first in Kent to have capitalised on the Government's Free Schools Initiative, which allows groups of parents or interested parties to set up schools which are state-funded but not run by local authorities.

As a consequence, it has more control over its curriculum and budget.

But National Union of Teachers representatives last week accused it of entering an already crowded educational market in Maidstone and putting jobs of other teachers at risk.

Hitting back this week, Gigi Luscombe, executive officer of the Future Schools Trust, which runs the school, denied the claims.

She said: "In order to open a free school a proposer has to demonstrate to the Department for Education (DfE) there is sufficient demand and that they have sufficient expertise and capacity to deliver the project.

"We carried out extensive consultation in the area to establish whether or not there was demand. Just under 500 people responded to the questionnaire expressing an interest in a potential new primary school in south Maidstone.

"There then followed public meetings where people were invited to express their views. A proposal was submitted to the DfE and a number of senior staff were interviewed by a panel from the DfE to further establish the proposal's viability.

"As part of the consultation process, all local schools were invited to comment, no schools chose to respond.

"With regard to the longevity of the school being called into question, the trust has had to demonstrate demand going forward and the DfE would not have allowed the school to open if the project was deemed not to be viable.

"There is considerable evidence that the birth rate in the locality is rising and is set to rise further over the coming years and, as such, there is a demand for more primary school places in the area. This has been highlighted by the recent issues around parents not gaining places in their chosen schools and many primary schools being oversubscribed."

And it denied teaching Mandarin was a "fad".

The executive added: "It has been the policy of the trust to offer Mandarin for the past five years, so it is only natural the language is offered at Tiger Primary. Indeed, the children who attend Little Learners Nursery, also run by the trust, learn Mandarin.

"There is plenty of evidence to support the fact the younger children start a language the more successful they will be in the subject as they progress through their schooling."



FIRST FREE SCHOOL: The Tiger Primary opened its doors to pupils earlier this month

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SPORT

Schoolchildren join athletic elite as Hever Castle prepares to host gruelling triathlon

By Chris Britcher
chris.britcher@archant.co.uk

URGED on by a spectacular summer of sport, organisers of the Hever Castle Triathlon say they are expecting record numbers to take part in the gruelling event later this month.

Some 3,500 entries are expected for the event which, for the elite athletes taking part, will see them swim 1.5km, then cycle 40km and finish the event with a 10km run.

Among those participating in the top category will be Rhys Davey, a Leeds athlete who regularly trains with London 2012 Olympic heroes Alistair and Jonathan Brownlee.

But the event, now in its fourth year, will include more than just the top competitors.

Open to all ages and abilities, it will also feature teams taking part for charity and more than 500 children aged between eight and 15-years-old.

They will compete in shorter distances, tailored to their age group, in what is fast becoming the largest children's triathlon in Europe.

Among those will be 40 children from Maidstone's Maplesden Noakes School. They will be part of an inter-schools tournament staged as part of the event and with 10 schools competing.

Pupils from Maplesden were visited this week by elite triathlete and Iron Man champion Elizabeth Brama. She gave them some vital tips, and a short training session.

The youngsters are aiming to raise money as part of their house challenge, with three charities benefiting: Help for Heroes, Heart of Kent Hospice and Cancer Research UK.



SPLASH AND DASH: Around 3,500 competitors will swim, cycle and run in the Hever Castle triathlon

Race director Brian Adcock said: "Maplesden Noakes School represents the very essence of what this series is all about; children, staff and families taking part in a race tailored for them in a beautiful, historic setting.

"As well as it being a professional sporting event we intend to build upon the festival atmosphere we have created over the past few years."

Each pupil will complete the event by themselves or be part of a relay team, either swimming 200m in the 38-acre lake, cycling 5km, or running 4km through the estate and castle grounds before making the dash to the lakeside finish.

Children will cycle and run a route which is exclusively on the estate and not on public roads.

The Hever Castle race, which takes place on September 29-30, is part of the Markel Insurance Castle Triathlon Series which includes five weekend events over the summer.

If you think you're ready for a challenge, there's still time to register. For details see www.castletriathlonseries.co.uk.

ACCIDENT

Acid spill burns woman

A WOMAN is recovering this weekend after a spill of hydrochloric acid left her needing to be rushed to hospital for treatment to burns.

Nearly 500ml of the liquid was spilt at a store in Gabriels Hill, Maidstone, on Monday. Nearby shops were also evacuated. Fire crews were called to clear up the spill and remove the fumes.

BLAZE

Fire destroys building

THREE fire engines were called to a blaze near Cranbrook last Sunday morning in an inferno which destroyed 75 per cent of an unoccupied single-storey out-building.

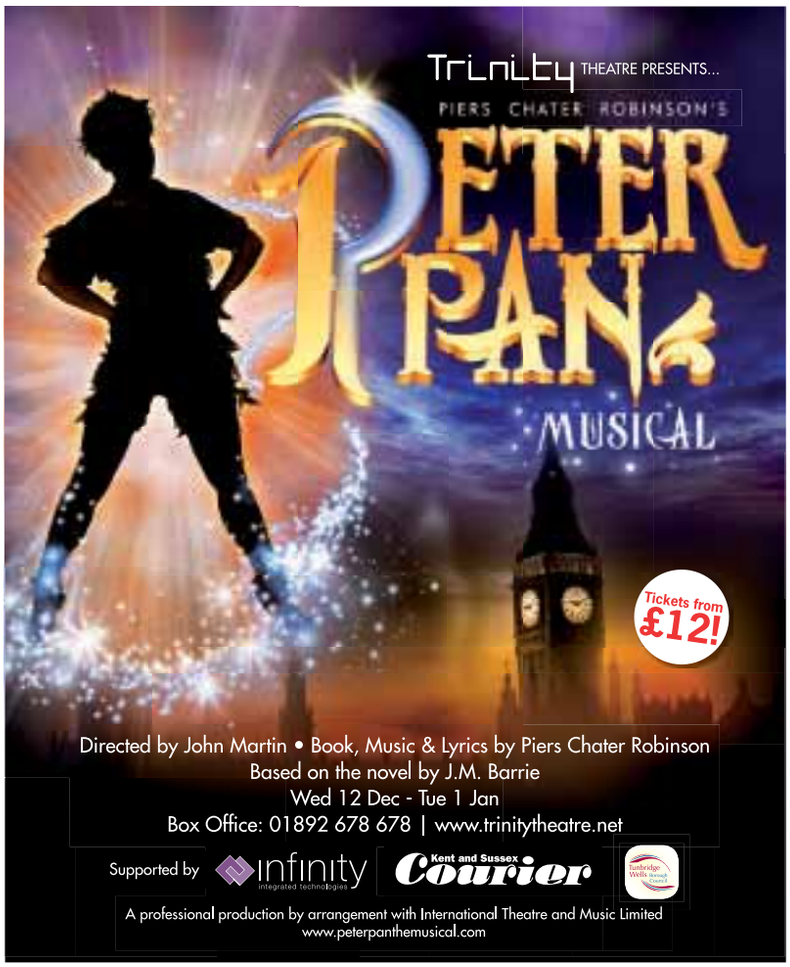
It took two hours for crews to bring the fire under control in The Street in Frittenden and a further four-and-a-half to make the site safe. No-one was injured. The cause is being probed.

CRIME

Stolen goods found

POLICE have thanked eagle-eyed villagers in Smarden after they alerted an officer to a suspicious van that turned out to be full of stolen items.

Pinched lawn mowers and tools were found in the vehicle parked in The Street last month. A 21-year-old man from Chatham has been arrested on suspicion of burglary.






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Advertisers Announcement

Congratulations all round!

There is much to celebrate all round at the Bishop of Rochester Academy in Chatham, Medway's flagship Academy - which is Sponsored by Rochester Diocesan Board of Education, Canterbury Christ Church University and Medway Council.







Students and staff are celebrating their recent GCSE Exam Results, with a massive rise in results to 42% 5+ A - C Grades (including English & Maths) this year, which is more than double last year's results.*

The Bishop of Rochester Academy has a new Principal, Mr Colin Boxall, who together with his new Leadership Team has introduced a multitude of new initiatives to drive up standards and raise the attainment of students - encapsulated by the Academy's new motto: 'Determined to Excel'.

"I am determined to encourage all our students to achieve beyond their expectations." said Mr Boxall.

The Sixth Form is also going from strength to strength, with some impressive Level 3 results for A Levels and BTECS.

The Academy's recent Exam success follows on from a visit from OfSTED last Term, when the Inspection team reported improvements being made at the Academy and commended the new Principal on his vision for its future progress.

2012 GCSE EXAM RESULTS

5+ A* - G GCSE	99%
5+ A* - C GSCE	80%





Determined to Excel

"The Principal's strategic vision demonstrates strong leadership... those actions he has initiated illustrate perceptive insight of what needs to be done... He is rightly focussed on raising achievement... improving the quality of learning..."

OfSTED, April 2012

"In lessons, I observed a significant number of students with good levels of engagement in their learning..."

OfSTED, April 2012

"The Academy has raised its expectations of the levels of progress that can be achieved by students between Key Stages 2 and 4. Senior managers have set targets in line with the national average of three levels of progress and are carefully monitoring..."

OfSTED, April 2012

The Bishop of Rochester Academy
At the Heart of the Local Community

The Bishop of Rochester Academy is a Church of England Co-educational Comprehensive school for 11-19 year old students of all ability ranges.

Applications are being invited for Admission into Year 7 at the Academy in September 2013.

Students joining the Academy from this September will be amongst the first to benefit from the stunning new Academy building, with its exceptional learning environment and state-of-the-art facilities.

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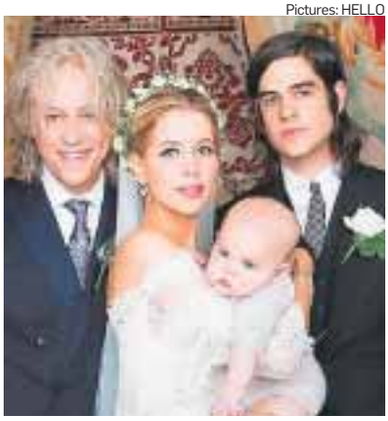


CELEBRITY

Sir Bob sees Peaches wed in church he holds so dear

By Marijke Cox
marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

Pictures: HELLO



HAPPY: Sir Bob, Peaches, Tom and baby Astala

IT HAS been the setting for tears and laughter, where Live Aid hero and Boomtown Rats frontman Sir Bob Geldof celebrated his wedding to Paula Yates and where, 14 years later, her funeral was held.

But it was smiles again at St Mary Magdalene and St Lawrence Church in Davington, near Faversham, last weekend as the couple's daughter Peaches wed punk singer Thomas Cohen.



After the ceremony, the wedding party moved to her father's Davington Priory estate, located next to the church, where they danced into the early hours.

Speaking after the wedding, the 23-year-old, who had seven bridesmaids including her sisters Fifi, 29, Pixie, 21, and Tiger Lily, 16, said she could feel her mother Paula watching over her.

"I feel her presence all the time, but especially today," she told Hello! magazine.

"Mum loved family celebrations and she would adore Tom and the fact we've married here. I know she is watching over me and feeling so happy for us."

The tragic TV presenter, famed for her work on The Tube and Big Breakfast, died in 2000 after an heroin overdose.

She had left Mr Geldof five years earlier for INXS star Michael Hutchence who, himself, died in a suspected suicide in a hotel room in 1997.

Yates' funeral was held at the historic church in Davington, where her and long-time love Geldof had had their wedding blessed after getting married in Las Vegas in 1986.

Peaches and Tom announced their engagement in December 2011. Five months ago they became parents to baby Astala.

X FACTOR'S DERMOT ALSO READY TO TIE THE KNOT



ANOTHER celebrity getting hitched this month is X Factor presenter Dermot O'Leary who was due to wed long-term girlfriend Dee Koppang on Friday.

Mr O'Leary is regularly seen in Broadstairs visiting Ms Koppang's mother and step-father.

At the time of going to press, the star-studded wedding ceremony was rumoured to be taking place on the Sussex/Kent border.

Among the guests expected to be attending the ceremony were former X Factor contestants and chart-topping boy band One Direction.

Speaking ahead of the big day, the popular TV presenter proclaimed his love for his girlfriend and said he couldn't wait to tie the knot.

Picture: ITV

EDUCATION

Academy kicks off at the Stones' stadium

NON-LEAGUE Maidstone United have opened up a new college academy at its new £2.6m Gallagher Stadium.

The club has teamed up with MidKent College to set up the academy which will see players spending five days a week at the stadium for the next two years, studying for a BTEC Level 3 in sport and a range of vocational football-related qualifications, while learning more about the game, training to play and competing in three leagues. Students currently in Year 11 can apply to join the 2013/14 academy season from next month. Applicants will be expected to have four A* to C GCSEs and complete a football trial.

CHARITY

Chris O'Dowd keeps abreast of campaign

ACTOR Chris O'Dowd filmed a special clip to promote awareness of male breast cancer at the Beckenham Spa, which was unveiled this week.

Portraying the health and safety officer in charge of the Topless Female Trampolining World Championships, the film also features members of the resident trampolining club the Beckenham Fliers.

The film has been designed by the Male Cancer Awareness Campaign and breast cancer awareness charity CoppaFeel! - to see a sneak peak at the trailer see www.thebouncies.org or see www.facebook.com/thebouncies.

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HERITAGE

‘Terrifying’ V2 returns, decades after bringing death from the skies



BOMB SQUAD: The V2 arrives at Brompton Barracks, Chatham

THE V2 IN NUMBERS

Total V2s fired during WWII	**3,172**
Civilians killed in London/South East by V2s	**2,754**
Civilians injured	**6,523**
Largest loss of life by V2	**567 dead, 291 injured, in Antwerp, Belgium, December 1944**

By Chris Murphy
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

THEY rained down death from as high as 50 miles in the sky – their sinister rocket engines sparking fear in the hearts of anyone who heard them go silent as they passed overhead.

Hitler’s V2 bombs, propelled by the then new technology of rocket motors, were the precursor to today’s Cruise missiles – and now one has landed in the county once more, this time harmlessly, to go on public display.

What’s more, it is the very device used by the Army during the war to unlock the bomb’s deadly secrets.

While today’s missiles can be directed to make pinpoint strikes, the V2 was roughly aimed at Kent and the South East as an indiscriminate killing machine.

There were even stories of daredevil Spitfire pilots intercepting them, and using their wings to deflect the rockets.

Catherine Byrne is deputy curator at the Royal Engineers Museum Library and Archive at Brompton Barracks in Chatham, where the rocket is going on display.

She said: “The V2 Rocket, which had been rotting away for more than 50 years, has been strengthened and lovingly restored by Borley Brothers, a structural engineering company based in Cambridge.

“The history of this V2 is a little sketchy. It was picked up in the Netherlands in the midst of chaos at the end of World War Two and brought back to the UK by the Royal Engineers.

“The British Army wanted to capture them intact and figure out how they worked technically and how we could counter them in something called Operation Backfire.

“It has been at various MoD bases since the 1940s – Farnborough, Ripon, and from the 1960s or 70s at Chattenden. This is the first time the public will be able to see this monumental weapon.”

The V2, with a one-ton warhead, was designed by Captain Walter Dornberger and Wernher von Braun. Technologically advanced at the time, it went on to kill more than 3,000 people.

Ms Byrne said: “The V2 was a terrifying weapon. It travelled three times faster than the speed of sound and so there was no warning. During 1944-45 more than 500 V2s fell on London and with the Germans launching more than 2,500 on Allied countries.”

Von Braun and his men were transferred to Huntsville, Alabama, in 1950 to develop the ballistic missile.

America’s first satellite was launched from a Wernher von Braun design, the Jupiter-C, and he would eventually go on to head NASA and see his visionary rocket, the Saturn 5, carry man to the Moon.

Ironically, much of the damage in Kent was a result of British intelligence leaking false information to the German authorities that the rockets were overshooting their targets by 20 miles. It resulted in many of the bombs landing in the county instead.

The last reported casualty of the V2 in this country was Ivy Millichamp, 34, killed in Kynaston Road, Orpington, on March 27, 1945.

See www.remuseum.org.uk to find out more.



Picture: BUNDESARCHIV, BILD 141-1880 / CC-BY-SA

KILLING MACHINE: The V2 bomb delivered death from the sky during World War Two

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WILDLIFE

Native wildlife species losing the battle raging in our waterways as foreign invaders take over

By Marijke Cox
marijke.cox@archant.co.uk

FOREIGN killer crayfish carrying a deadly plague are destroying Kent's native species, forcing conservations to take desperate measures.

Experts have been forced to set up a secret location to help ensure the survival of the white-clawed crayfish, which can now be found at just seven sites in the county.

The species' depletion has been caused by the formidable American signal crayfish, imported in the 1960s to UK fish farms.

Some escaped and others were released, and they can now be found in our rivers and lakes.

As well as spreading crayfish plague, they are predatory, cannibalistic and out-compete the smaller white-clawed species.

Biodiversity technical specialist at the Environment Agency, Tom Reid said: "Our native crayfish doesn't stand a chance. We've had to create a secret location for white-clawed crayfish."

But it's not just the fearsome signal crayfish taking over our rivers and streams. Other non-native fish are also found roaming the waters.

Recently 50 goldfish were found in a stream beside the Great Stour, dumped by a pet owner.

Mr Reid said it was not the first time this had happened and warned of the devastating impact this could have on native species.

"Goldfish released into lakes breed with crucian carp which create brown goldfish," he said.





DANGER: The white-clawed crayfish is depleting as foreign species, such as the terrapin, take control

"If this hybridisation continued there would be no pure strains left. We would lose the important crucian carp species."

Another fish wreaking havoc is the topmouth gudgeon, an import from the Far East.

The small fish carry a deadly infection which wipes out stocks of salmon and trout, which are found in Kent.

Mr Reid said: "We have had cases of topmouth gudgeon in Kent and because of the problem they pose we had to eradicate them using drastic action. We used rotenone, a piscicide that kills everything in the water, then we have to restock.

"This isn't the case with all non-native fish, however.

"Other problems we see involve non-native fish being parasitic. They also over compete with native species, so they eat all the food and then there's a decrease in native species."

Mr Reid said terrapins were also found in the county and the Environment Agency was currently in the process of trying to catch one near Westbere in Canterbury.

"The wily thing keeps avoiding the trap," he said.

Mr Reid said people bought terrapins following the Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle craze in the 1990s.

"People went out and bought them without realising how big they would get and how long they live," he said.

"They get bigger, to the size of a dinner plate, and live for 50 years. A lot happens in that time; people grow up, they move on and don't want them any more.

"They think the nice thing to do is to put them in a pond or lake. but this is the worst thing.

"Terrapins can be destructive, they give people diseases such as salmonella and they bite. If anyone has a fish or terrapin they don't want, don't let them into the wild, take them to a sanctuary."

Mr Reid said he expected a "new generation" of terrapin owners once the new Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtle film comes out in 2014.

It's not just non-native fish that have descended on Kent over the years.

A colony of yellow-tailed scorpions – believed to have made their way over on merchant ships from Europe in the 18th century – live in the walls at Sheerness Dockyard.

It is thought there are more than 10,000 living in the crevices. Although they can deliver a sting, it is said to be less powerful than a bee.



OPINION

Starved out by an Arctic crisis

Tim Garbutt considers what climate change and the melting ice cap at the North Pole mean for this county's future food security

RECENT reports that the Arctic icesheet is the lowest it has ever been is as important as it is horrifying.

The last lowest figure was in 2007 (with a decade's worth of highest ever temperatures), and with the satellite imagery of the last 35 years the reduction in ice at the North Pole can be tracked and recorded.

Summer ice has melted so that within three to five years experts predict the North Pole will be open ocean with no ice at all. Presumably just a few soggy polar bears.

Already the Northern Sea Route from Tokyo to Europe, across Russia, and the North-West Passage across Canada are open to shipping: 34 ships using the former route – up from just four two years ago.

We are entering a world unknown to humanity where last week's storms such as Hurricane Isaac in Florida and Haiti, or floods in Burma and Korea become ever-more prevalent and deeper – as less ice means warmer seas increasing heat and rising sea levels further.

And, aside from storms, the US wheat belt already has 1930s style dust bowls, sending food prices soaring: cereal prices up 120 per cent, and dairy up 107 per cent as 45 per cent of the corn and 35 per cent of the soya crops are destroyed. Cereal prices peaked in 2008 according to the UN – yet another record now broken.

Food riots have already destabilised regimes during the Arab Spring: Yemen reports rice prices up by 60 per cent, while bread prices in Egypt and Tunisia sparked riots and revolution – with similar incidents in Ivory Coast and Malawi. Add in reduced fish stocks and political instability in Ghana and Ethiopia, and the food crisis looks bleak across Africa and the Middle East.

Kent would be affected not just by more flood and storms – along with sharper winters and hotter summers that increase potholes, but also economic refugees and humanitarian crises from Africa and the Middle East.

Food riots haven't broken out in your local supermarket, but the world's refugees from Afghanistan, Somalia, Yemen and Kenya will pitch up on Kent's doorstep as the food crisis deepens – and epidemics of cholera and tubercolosis break out. Another multi-million pound Kent Police spy drone will be of little use hovering over the Channel filming a bigger repeat of the Calais Jungle or Hackney riots.

So strong are the concerns on the Continent – not separated by the Channel breakwater – that several German and Austrian banks have already removed food products from investment funds to reduce speculation, hoarding and shortage.



We are entering a world unknown to humanity

Perhaps opportunities for Kent in the Climate Change Age though are in the likes of Thanet Earth greenhouses on brownfield sites to provide space-age sustenance, reduce air miles, and provide greater protection of farmland to feed Britain's own population.

If the U-Boat blockade in World War Two reduced Britain to grow your own allotments on every patch of land, near starvation levels in just four years, and rationing for a further decade, then climate change would be more far impactful. Especially as a starving Kansas would take priority over a starving Kent in any future Climate Change Lend-Lease.

In the chill winds of the age of climate change, Kent is looking exposed.

■ Tim Garbutt is the managing director of Sincerity Agency the leading green and ethical advertising agency in East Kent.

KOS COMMENT

Do designs obscure real airport debate?

REGARDLESS of your opinion on plans for a Thames Estuary airport, it is becoming difficult to ascertain realistic proposals from ambitious publicity-seeking plans.
From Boris Johnson's original idea, designed very much with the view of winning the support of swathes of the London electorate under the Heathrow flight path, to the latest scheme (which looks like it comes straight from a set designer's sketch book for a futuristic space port in a Star Trek or Star Wars movie), the estuary scheme is at risk of becoming a prop for those seeking column-inches.
The danger is the sleek images obscure the very debate at its heart - and it's impact on the future of Kent.

Too much, too young

FOR any parent who has endured the build-up to this month's 11-plus exams, it has been a difficult and stressful time. Whatever your view on the county's selective system, it is hard to challenge the fact such exams at such a tender age put too much strain and pressure on their young shoulders.

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Anti-airport bid wears thin

KoS readers in west Kent must be getting tired of the anti-estuary airport campaign, which is now scraping the bottom of the barrel to find reasons why east Kent holidaymakers and business people should continue to enjoy air travel but bear none of the consequences.

The arguments are getting stretched thinner every week – the latest by rookie MP Mark Reckless, is the silliest so far. Like Kent County Council leader, Paul Carter, and his predecessor, Sir Sandy Bruce Lockhart, he sees a second runway at Gatwick as the answer to it all – without a single act of consultation with the west Kent population who live under the low-altitude approach path into Gatwick.

Even without a second runway, Gatwick's passenger numbers are going to climb to 40 million in a few years.

No doubt Gatwick has been a success. An estuary airport could be, too. Mr Reckless is not alone in avoiding the issue of job prospects, for example. With unemployment 50 per cent above the national average in Thanet, and 100 per cent above the unemployment rate in Crawley/Gatwick I fail to understand why they cannot spot a better vote-winning band wagon when it stares them in the face.

Bill McMillan, Cowden

Lakewood is very welcome

I AM one of the Sherwood ward councillors and I took great interest in your article about Lakewood.

The plans have taken more than two years to come to fruition. The extensive consultation process, with models, diagrams, maps, and the architects present to answer questions, should be held as an exemplar to other housing associations. The appearance, use of materials, and siting of the new buildings was mainly chosen by Sherwood residents.

The flats that are coming down are well past their useful life and the new environment will bring us into the 21st century. There will be better communal space for residents and many of the new houses will have their own gardens. There is also the chance, in the near future, of an imaginative 'sky bridge' to Sherwood Lake from the side of the TN2 Centre, which will underscore the new name of the development Lakewood.

Cllr Bob Backhouse, Tunbridge Wells

Don't ruin our A&E facilities

OPEN letter to Jeremy Hunt, Health Secretary:

Congratulations on your appointment. Thank goodness it gives a breathing space to halt the proposals that are being made to establlish 16 'major trauma' centres throughout England.

What seems to be a wonderful idea will have devastating repercussions to the existing 24-hour A&E hospitals, (194 according to freedom of information), because only 16 of these will have the staff and capability to deal with level 1 – major – trauma.

Here, in the Isle of Thanet, which covers Margate. Ramsgate, Broadstairs and outlying villages, we will be out of reach of the proposed new trauma centre which will either be at the William Harvey Hospital at Ashford, or even further away at Medway Maritime Hospital in Gillingham. If this becomes the case then the 'Golden Hour Principle' will have been abandoned in Thanet.

Common sense tells me that making the Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother Hospital (QEQM) a new major trauma centre in Thanet would make these proposals viable, but apparently this is out of the question, although in Sussex, the two major trauma centres are at Brighton and London – and that is acceptable there.

Why there cannot be a similar arrangement in Kent is incomprehensible. The QEQM would cover all those in the east of Kent. Pembury hospital in Tunbridge Wells could cover all of the west.

The stumbling block in the argument supporting the new proposals is that comparison is being made between transporting people by helicopter from Thanet to London (20-30 minutes) and transporting people by road in an ambulance to Ashford (at least one hour). This is not comparable.

This is wrong. An ambulance is not an operating theatre. Internal bleeding, for example, cannot be operated on in an ambulance.

Added to all this, the plan includes changing the names of all the other A&E departments into ED departments. How stupid is this? People will be unaware of the meaning of 'ED' (emergency department) when A&E is universally understood and acted upon in a crisis.

Please revise the proposals before untold damage is done. Both lives and outcomes will be put at risk if the proposals as they stand are adopted.

Betty Renz, by email

Cabinet is not green enough

KENT Green Party is unimpressed by David Cameron's reshuffle in favour of the anti-environmental extreme right.

Prime Minister David Cameron has appointed anti-environment ministers in his reshuffled Cabinet. This is bad for Kent and Medway since greener policies would boost employment in our county.

The new Environment Secretary, Owen Paterson, is opposed to wind farms, which are a very important source of clean energy and of employment in Kent.

The new energy minister, John Hayes, is curiously sceptical about renewable sources of energy in general. Energy efficiency and conservation could reduce our current energy use by up to 60 per cent, but not under this Government. The Chancellor is collaborating with other ministers to attack planning laws for the sake of housing and new infrastructure.

But there are 24,000 empty homes in Kent and other empty buildings and sites waiting for use.

We are very concerned this may signal another attempt to build in our forests and continue urban sprawl rather than regeneration.

Patrick McLoughlin, new transport secretary, has neither major aviation nor port issues in his constituency, making him an odd choice.

Expansion of airports is something the Coalition parties cannot agree about and which is opposed vigorously here in Kent in respect of Lydd, Manston, and the rather unlikely Estuary Airport.

The potential employment to be gained through greener policies will not become reality in Kent or Medway with this Government.

Dr Hazel Dawe, Campaigns Officer, Kent Green Party

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Edited by **Adam Aiken**

Hit by fallout from the investment minefield



TONY HETHERINGTON
MONEY CLINIC

Q IN 2008, I invested with Keydata. In 2010, Keydata was replaced as plan manager by Merchant Capital, which itself recently appointed Reyker Securities as administration manager.

Investors face a small fee to register with Reyker, which is irritating, but Reyker also wants to change the terms to include increased charges for early redemption and an agreement to pay further fees it might levy in future.

Can Reyker unilaterally alter the terms?

A YOU have been unlucky! Keydata closed in 2009, after watchdog the Financial Services Authority found some of its investment schemes were wrongly marketed as tax-free Isas.

In 2010, Merchant Capital took over certain Keydata funds and appointed Pritchard Stockbrokers to handle administration.

But six months ago, the FSA banned Pritchard after finding it was using clients' money to pay its own debts.

One of Pritchard's bosses was Craig Whyte. He is also boss of an offshore company that owns a big slice of Merchant House, the parent company of Merchant Capital.

Whyte was also owner of the collapsed Glasgow Rangers Football Club. Trading in shares in Merchant House was suspended in April.

As to your question, the answer is yes, Reyker can lay down whatever terms it wishes. It was never part of the original deal and is not bound by it.

But equally, you can reject new terms and ask a different firm to step in.

My temptation would be to talk to a local financial adviser with a view to quitting the investment completely.

Q MY mother was in a care home for two years until she died, and the fees were met from her pension and by selling her house.

I replied to an advertisement that said her fees could be reclaimed, and now I am rung up almost every day by the claims company, which says that if I do not claim now, the money is gone forever.

Is this just a sales pitch, and could I make the claim myself to save on their commission?

A CLAIMS management companies that specialise in reclaiming care home fees are making a big push because there really is a deadline looming.

In a nutshell, lots of people in care homes should have received something called NHS Continuing Healthcare.

They should not have been charged for anything that should have been provided by the NHS.

Anyone who was wrongly charged between April 1, 2004, and March 31, 2011, has until the end of September to ask the relevant primary care trust to check their entitlement.

If the person concerned has died, their family or executors can claim.

And if fees were paid in the year up to March 31, 2012, the deadline is a bit further away, with claims due by March 31 next year.

You can certainly file a claim personally, though you may do better with some legal help.

Q I OWNED a large house and half an acre of gardens, but due to the economic downturn, I could not sell.

I gained planning permission to build on part of the garden, and I sold the house separately.

I would be grateful if you could clarify the position for capital gains tax if I now sell the land.

A WE ARE all allowed one property as our main home that escapes capital gains tax.

This exemption includes your garden as long as house and land together do not exceed 5,000 square metres – about 1.2 acres.

Revenue rules also allow some leeway on timing, so people can move to their new home before selling the old one.

The final three years of ownership escape tax, even if you have moved out.

Now for the snag. You have told me you moved out of your house in 2008. The tax exemption would run until 2011 – and we are now in 2012. This does not mean that every penny you make on the sale of the land will be taxed, but roughly one year of ownership is taxable.

Calculate this as a proportion of your gain over the years since you bought the land, or back to 1982, whichever is later. Do see a local accountant as there are also tax reliefs that will keep the bill as low as possible

■ **If you have a personal-finance question, write to Tony Hetherington, MyMoney24, Prospect House, Rouen Road, Norwich NR1 1RE. We regret that neither Tony nor the MyMoney24 team can enter into personal correspondence.**

Get on super highway to save on car insurance

Automatically renewing your car insurance every year might be convenient – but it could also be costing you dearly... **ADAM AIKEN** reports

MOTORISTS are wasting billions of pounds a year by failing to shop around for the best insurance quotes when it comes to renewal time.

The inertia of millions of drivers means many of them are being charged way over the odds.

This month is traditionally a busy one for policy renewals thanks to the release of new number plates – and it means that much of the money annually wasted on auto-renewals will be chucked away over the next few weeks.

When it comes to the total amount wasted by drivers each year, estimates range between £3 billion and nearly £5bn. That is a lot of money.

"Car insurance premiums are at unprecedented high levels and significant savings can still be made by comparing policies, as different insurers assess risks differently," said Scott Kelly, of price-comparison site Gocompare.com

"We know from our own figures that motorists can save an average of £399 simply by changing their insurer.

"Yet, incredibly, just under a third of drivers haven't switched for more than three years.

"During this period, the average fully comprehensive car insurance premium has more than doubled."

Of those drivers who allow their insurers to renew their policies automatically, a third do so in the belief that the cheapest provider last year will be the cheapest this year, too.

But Mr Kelly said such loyalty was misplaced. "In the last couple of years, all insurers have been forced to revise their rates, so drivers shouldn't take anything for granted.

"On the face of it, simply allowing your policy to roll on for another year may look like an attractive and easy option, but it could cost you dear."

Moneysupermarket.com said its research showed that nearly eight million motorists a year fell into the auto-renewal trap.

Pete Harrison, a car insurance expert at Moneysupermarket, said: "With many families returning home from summer breaks, household budgets are likely to be strained, and it's important people don't just accept the renewal prices from their car-insurance providers."

The average saving Moneysupermarket said can be made by shopping around is just over £400 – broadly in line with the figures from Gocompare.

Motorists aged 55 and older are typically the most loyal when it comes to staying with their insurance providers. According to Moneysupermarket, drivers in this category stay with their insurers for an average of more than three years.

"No matter where you live or how old you are, it's vital to do your homework at renewal time, as searching for a better deal doesn't cost you anything and there is a lot to gain," said Mr Harrison

Illustration: ANNETTE HUDSON



CASE STUDY

HOLLI Oldfield, who is getting ready to renew her car insurance, is using price comparison websites to find the best deal.

But Ms Oldfield, 26, was shocked to find that not only would she benefit from switching policies, her existing insurer was offering a better quote if she signed up as a new customer than if she simply renewed her existing deal.



"I'm getting email reminders from all the price comparison websites I used last year, along with a reminder from my current insurance provider," said Ms Oldfield, a marketing assistant.

"I am not in position to be able to pay an annual premium, so I currently pay £48 a month.

But despite having had no claims, my existing insurer has increased my premium to £695.02 a year, or £58 a month.

"This has prompted me to search the price comparison websites for a better deal.

"To my surprise, my current insurer is quoting £559.10 on the price comparison sites, which is more than £135 cheaper than my renewal quote."

The new quote still proved not to be the cheapest overall, and Ms Oldfield will be switching to a new insurer instead.

"I would never recommend auto-renewing," she said.

"This is a prime example of how these car insurance companies make their money."

KENT **REMEMBERED**

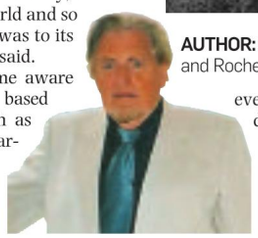
The spectre of violent death looms large over our haunted castles

By Chris Murphy
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk









AUTHOR: Marc Alexander visited Hever, Scotney and Rochester castles in researching his book

AS THE gateway to Europe, Kent has been Britain's frontline against invaders for centuries, which is why so many castles were built here.

Now the spooky tales about the spirits left behind at the historical forts following violence and bloodshed are being told in a new book, Britain's Haunted Castles.

Author Marc Alexander has examined the ghosts of England's castles, with several of his favourites located in Kent.

He said: "As well as being one of the world's most haunted countries, Britain is credited with having the largest number of castles. Often these two aspects go together as I found out when I set out to write Britain's Haunted Castles with my friend and literary colleague Paul Abrahams.

"Together we travelled the country in search of ancient spooky sites and legends, which was great fun."

He picked out Scotney Castle, near Lamberhurst, as one of his favourites.

"It is a beautiful sight on a fine summer's day seen above its reflection on the moat. It's so peaceful it's hard to imagine the act of violence that led to its haunting.

"It is said that a phantom figure, festooned with water weeds, has been seen on dark nights to struggle out of the moat and stagger to the castle door before fading away. The ghost is believed to be that of an excise officer who was beaten to death by smugglers and thrown into the moat when he surprised a pack train of contraband."

Another spooky story concerns Dover Castle where a drummer boy is said to have been murdered during the Napoleonic Wars.

Mr Alexander said it was presumed he was decapitated as his ghost, complete with drum, has been described as headless.

But the author said it was Rochester Castle which has the most tragic of castle apparitions, in the form of Lady Blanche de Warrene who lived seven centuries ago.

"One evening Ralph de Capo, the crusader knight, who had charge of the castle, returned to see his love Lady Blanche struggling in the brutal embrace of a rejected suitor on top of the Round Tower," said Mr Alexander.

"He seized a bow and loosed an arrow. It streaked upwards and struck his enemy's armour which deflected it straight into Lady Blanche's heart.

"She died with the bitter knowledge that her lover had accidentally ended her life. It was recorded the castle's haunting began that same night, her ghost being seen moving along the castle walls, weeping at her cruel destiny."

Mr Alexander's interest in ghosts began when he arrived back from New Zealand years ago.

"New Zealand is a wonderful country, but lacks the monuments of the Old World and so my first excursion in London was to its tower – I became hooked," he said.

"On visiting castles I became aware that many ghostly tales were based on historical happenings such as Queen Anne Boleyn's reappearances in the Tower of London.

"In writing about haunted castles I ignored the question of what ghosts might be or even if they existed. The point is that down the centuries thousands upon thousands of people have believed in them, and that is enough to enshrine them in British folklore."

■ **Britain's Haunted Castles is published by The History Press.**

Style Season
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You can phone him on **01303 817181**, or alternatively email **nick.ames@archant.co.uk**.

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Government inaction 'stifling productivity'

By Nick Ames
nick.ames@archant.co.uk

The economy is the most important factor when it comes to doing business in 2012 and this week we take a look at the state it is in. Some in the business community say they are crying out for leadership from a government perceived as being increasingly out of touch with the problems faced by those who generate the UK's wealth. Businesses say they want to move the country out of the economic doldrums – but need some positive input from those running the nation.

PROMPT, swift and decisive Government action is needed to rescue Britain's economy, say industry experts after a thorough analysis of the nation's prospects.

Meanwhile, a leading member of Kent's business community has branded as "disappointing and alarming" downgraded economic forecasts for growth in the coming 15 months.

Jo James, chief executive of Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce, was commenting on national figures that predict an overall figure of -0.4 per cent for the remainder of 2012 as against an earlier prediction of +0.1 per cent.

Next year the figure has been revised from +1.9 per cent to +1.2 per cent by analysts from the British Chambers of Commerce (BCC).

And James says that while business is trying desperately to boost productivity, outside factors, including Government inaction, are holding back any recovery.

She called for greater stimulus to boost economic growth – instead of just austerity cuts.

"The BCC's downgraded predictions are disappointing and alarming," said James. BCC has, right from the start of this recession, been highly accurate in assessing the developing situation.

"What is especially exasperating is that the survey shows UK businesses have the will and the facility to mitigate and begin to overcome the problems but are being held back by factors out of their control.



CONCERNED: Jo James says that no matter how hard businesses try to overcome problems they are limited by outside factors

"The business community has always accepted the need for deficit reduction and worked within the parameters of domestic austerity measures.

"No matter how enterprising companies are, however, commerce and industry cannot thrive without the right economic conditions.

"It is becoming more evident as time goes on that austerity measures as employed at present cannot retrieve the situation – business development and expansion is the only way to recover the economy.

"Within the necessary constraints of deficit reduction, it is surely time for the Government to introduce measures – whatever it takes – to create a climate more conducive to business enterprise."

The latest report from the BCC highlighted the following factors and trends when predicting economic trends:

■ Headwinds from a slowing global economy, crisis in the eurozone and domestic austerity measures complicating UK recovery prospects.

■ Continued reports of growth by many Chamber members suggests there is a reserve of business confidence and strong performance in the UK that can be harnessed .

And it is calling for:

■ Action to create a new model economy for the UK, with immediate measures to support business confidence and investment, a radical long-term growth plan and commitment to deficit reduction.

■ Swift action to support business investment, incentivise job-creation, and jump-start construction, particularly in the housing sector. These measures will have to be funded either by tough choices within the existing spending envelope, or using the UK's market credibility to support limited extra borrowing.

■ Radical long-term growth measures, including a state-backed business bank, a large-scale infrastructure investment programme and more support to boost UK exports.

■ Continued commitment to deficit reduction in a way that maintains the strong position of market credibility the UK has built up in recent years.

BCC PREDICTIONS

Growth
With the global economy likely to strengthen slowly over the next two years, modest positive UK growth of 1.2 per cent in 2013, followed by an improvement to 2.2 per cent in 2014.

Business investment fell in Q2 2012, but in the first half of 2012 as a whole it recorded strong growth of almost 8 per cent compared with a year earlier. In full-year terms, we expect business investment to grow by 4.5 per cent in 2012, 5 per cent in 2013 and 5.2 in 2014.

The rebalancing of the UK economy towards net exports has been slow. After good progress in 2011, there has been a setback in 2012, with exports likely to fall marginally and imports set to increase by 2.3 per cent this year. In 2013 and 2014, we expect exports to grow a little faster than imports.

Jobs
UK unemployment will increase from 2.564 million (8 per cent of the workforce) in Q2 2012, to 2.750m (8.5 per cent of the workforce) in Q4 2013, a net increase of 186,000 in the total.

This forecast reflects stronger-than-expected job figures in recent months, but many of the planned public-spending cuts are yet to be implemented and UK growth will be very weak

Youth unemployment will total some 1.048 million in Q4 2013.

Borrowing
Public-sector borrowing forecast for 2012/13 is £106 billion, some £14bn above the latest forecast from independent financial watchdog the Office for Budget Responsibility, published in March 2012.

Annual inflation at 2.7 per cent in 2012, 2.1 per cent in 2013 and 2.2 in 2014.

Interest rates
UK interest rates to remain at 0.5 per cent until early in 2014, then to rise to 0.75 per cent in Q1 2014, 1 per cent in Q2 2014 and then 1.5 per cent in Q4 2014.

Borrowing reduction hits smaller firms

SMALL and medium-sized businesses have cut back on borrowing in the past quarter, according to the most recent figures – further bad news for the prospect of economic growth.

The quarterly SME Finance Monitor found 43 per cent of the 5,000 companies surveyed in the second quarter used external finance such as bank overdrafts, loans and credit cards.

This is down from 50 per cent in the first three months of the year.

A combination of Government spending cuts, uncertainty over the euro and a lack of stimulus to the economy are behind the figures, say analysts from the quarterly SME Finance Monitor.

The study was commissioned by the Business Finance Taskforce, a banking-led body.

It concluded that the current economic climate had meant SMEs had been particularly hard hit as banks, facing higher capital requirements and concerned over reserves, cut back on lending.

Various Government schemes aimed at improving the availability of financing have so far failed to have any real impact.

"There remains limited appetite for external finance, both looking back over the past year and forward to the next three months," said Shiona Davies, director at independent market-research consultancy BDRC Continental, which carried out the survey.

■ **FOR ALL THE LATEST JOBS IN KENT –** with more than 1,500 advertised **– SEE OUR WEBSITE WWW.JOBS24.CO.UK/KENT**

Directors invited to take part in awards ceremony

By Nick Ames
nick.ames@archant.co.uk



ALREADY A SUCCESS: Sonja Wood of Ashford's EcoSan Services won two awards at last year's event

BUSINESS-LEADERS are being invited to enter the prestigious 2012 London and South East Director of the Year awards.

The awards, run by the Institute of Directors, were set up to applaud and recognise all that is best in the UK's commercial sector.

Open to members and non-members of the IoD, they attract entries from business-leaders from all across London and the South East, bringing together company directors from a range of backgrounds.

Last year's competition attracted a number of quality entries and culminated in the Gala Awards Dinner at the Landmark Hotel in London.

Sonja Wood, director of Ashford-based EcoSan Services, won two awards at last year's awards: Director of the Year for a Business up to £4.99 million category and New Business Director of the Year.

She was the only female director and the only one from Kent to reach last year's finals. She said: "I am incredibly proud as a Kent director to have won two awards.

"I hope my success will inspire more women to become directors as I feel there is a shortage in this country."

The Gala awards dinner is on April 18, 2013, and returns, for the third time, to The Nash Room at the IoD in Pall Mall.

Beginning with a drinks reception and a three-course meal, guests are then introduced to each of the finalists before the awards commence.

Rodger Broad, director of the IoD South, said: "These awards are a wonderful way to raise the profile of your organisation and boost the morale of your staff as success really does breed success.

"Many previous entrants who were not lucky enough to win have said that entering was still worthwhile as it helped them to take a fresh look at their operations.

"The awards dinner is also a great event at which to network with other high-quality businesses, as well as rewarding staff with a fantastic night out."

Entries are now open for awards in the following categories:

■ **Director of the Year (large company)**
This category is open to directors from FTSE and other large listed companies.

■ **Director of the Year (small and medium company)**
Open to directors of companies with 250 or fewer employees.

■ **Young Director of the Year**
Directors must be under the age of 42 and able to point to outstanding achievements during the past 12 months.

■ **Global Director of the Year**
Open to directors in UK-based companies with overseas sales. The entrant must be able to show that a minimum of 25 per cent of the company's turnover comes from overseas sales and must be successful in exporting and committed to continued growth in the international business arena.

■ **Public/Third Sector Director of the Year**
This award is open to all directors in the public sector as well as those working in the third sector and other charitable or not-for-profit organisations.

■ **Family Business Director of the Year**
Entrants will be directors in second-generation or more family businesses and will have responded to the specific challenges that face directors in such well-established firms.

■ **Chairman's Award for Leadership in Corporate Responsibility**
To recognise those directors who are able to demonstrate that, through their direct actions and leadership, their business has made a positive impact on the community, wider society and/or the environment.

■ **To enter, go to www.iod.com/south/awards for full details and open up the nomination form. Self-nominations from both members and non-members are encouraged.**

FINANCE

Outsourcing payroll could ease your pain

PROBLEMS are on the horizon over employees' pay, according to Kent financial experts.

DSH Chartered Accountants and Business Advisors are warning that small businesses are likely to experience payroll pain in the months to come as PAYE system changes are implemented.

Firms face the introduction of Real Time Information and a new pension regime, while HMRC is also clamping down on lax practices.

Glen Thomas, tax partner in DSH's Maidstone office, said there was now a real need for businesses to manage their payrolls more efficiently or to utilise the services of specialist payroll teams such as DSH's payroll division, Keyman Management Services.

"For small businesses running their own payroll, the next 12 months are likely to be taxing times," he said. "Many believe running their own payroll is a way of cutting costs, but evidence shows that the management time spent running a payroll, coupled with the ever-increasing risks of penalties and sanctions from HMRC, makes it a false economy.

"As payroll becomes increasingly complex, it requires specialist software to be processed cost-effectively and efficiently. Outsourcing can give a far better return than keeping it in-house."

EVENT

A month of fashion

THIS month has been designated the UK's first Designer Outlet Fashion Month.

McArthurGlen Ashford is part of the national initiative, championed by model and cultural ambassador for the British Fashion Council, Laura Bailey and singer-songwriter Delilah.

Natasha Jerram, marketing manager, said: "This is a brilliant opportunity for us to show label-lovers that they can find on-trend and seasonal pieces at McArthurGlen Ashford for up to 60 per cent less than the high street."

McArthurGlen has also teamed up with designer Holly Fulton, who has launched an exclusive tote bag to help celebrate. Shoppers will have the chance to pick up one of the limited-edition bags at the centre.

Rising star Kate is motivated to be the best

KATE Arnold, associate solicitor in the private client division at law firm Cripps Harries Hall LLP, has been named in this year's Top 35 under 35, as published by Private Client Practitioner.

To be named on the list, which recognises the rising stars of the private client professional community as a whole, including lawyers, accountants, wealth managers and IFAs, is a major honour, said her company.

Having trained at Tunbridge Wells-based Cripps Harries Hall, Arnold, pictured, is now an associate solicitor within the private client division. Advising clients with international interests both on lifetime succession planning and cross-border issues – particularly French – she frequently works with specialist partners on complex high-value legal and tax projects.



Arnold said: "I am delighted firstly to have been nominated, and then to be recognised, as one of the top practitioners in the country.

"This motivates me further to achieve the highest standard of practice possible."

Myles McIntosh, head of the private client division at Cripps, said: "This is a well-deserved achievement for Kate.

"She is a real credit to the firm, where she has shown exceptional aptitude as a lawyer achieving superb results for our clients. This recognition is an indication of the quality of the private client lawyers working at Cripps and the service clients rightly expect."

The most important meal of the day for your company

TENTERDEN'S biggest business breakfast is being held at The Little Silver Country Hotel, Tenterden, on Wednesday, September 26.

The Wealden Business Group open day is expected to attract more than 60 people, who will be given the opportunity to introduce themselves and their businesses at the biggest networking event of its type in the area.

Wealden Business Group chairman Richard Harvey said: "Networking is one of the most effective ways for businesses to sell their services, and when the economy is as challenging as it is right now, we're delighted to do what we can to help."

The event is free and includes complementary full English breakfast. Invitations have been extended to other business-support organisations in the Weald, including Tenterden Chamber of Commerce, Cranbrook Business Association and Oxney Rural Business Group.

■ If you are an owner or manager of a local business and would like to attend the Wealden Business Group Open Day breakfast, contact WBG secretary Malcolm Elsmore, email malcolm@elsmore.co.uk or phone 01580 715518.



Training, courses and careers

Fresh start for an armed robber who plumbed depths

AN armed robber who spent eight-and-a-half years behind bars is planning to start his own plumbing business with support from MidKent College.

Reformed criminal Lee Saunders – jailed in 2004 following a string of London raids on security vans, betting shops and other targets – is currently helping to refurbish a number of toilet blocks at the Maidstone campus.

The 37-year-old studied at the college while still serving time in prison, but won a contract to fix up the plumbing following his release in July.

"When I was younger I didn't really care about the consequences of my actions," he said. "I lived a party lifestyle and could never hold a job down because I was always coming in late or not at all, so I turned to a life of crime.

"I'm not proud of what I did and I held my hands up as soon as I got nicked. Going to prison was the wake-up call I needed, and it made me realise where I'd gone wrong in life.

"It's important to have positive influences growing up; otherwise you can get sucked into making the wrong decisions like I did."

Lee, who plans to move to Maidstone from his current home in Ealing, west London, is currently on a gap year from his studies while he readjusts to life on the outside.

He said: "I took up plumbing because I was going to be in prison for a long time and thought I should learn a trade. If you help yourself then people will help you, and that's what happened.

"Having my studies to focus on has turned my life around really. I've come out of prison a different person."

MidKent College's Maidstone campus is undergoing a £25m refurbishment, which includes a makeover of the neighbouring building formerly owned by the University for the Creative Arts.

College courses hope to be a cut above the rest

CANTERBURY College has launched new full-time and evening barbering and advanced hairdressing courses.

Beginners and trainee hairdressers can sign up for the Level 2 certificate in barbering, while seasoned salon professionals can enrol on the Level 3 advanced hairdressing day-release course at the New Dover Road campus.

The barbering course teaches facial hair trimming techniques and men's haircuts, and is perfect for trainee barbers without a Level 2 certificate, or for novices who want to learn the basics of cutting men's hair.

The teaching can be tailored to suit people's skill level.

Advanced hairdressing is a day-release course aimed at salon workers and self-employed hairdressers who want to learn new cuts, advanced colouring techniques, and hair science. Students will get the chance to show off their skills in a show at the prestigious ASK International Academy in London.

Kim Heath, section manager for hairdressing, said: "Barbering is a very flexible course, meaning we can cater for people with lots of experience and those who don't have much."

She added: "Level 3 advanced hairdressing is the first hairdressing course that has been run as a day-release, meaning it is ideal for employers to send their trainees to gain extra skills."

Painting and decorating star is an inspiration to new young apprentices

AFTER triumphing in the South East regional heat of SkillBuild, the UK's largest multi-trade competition, North West Kent College student Aron Baker has this week been in Preston to compete in the national finals.

Aron Baker, 19, from Welling, who completed his apprenticeship at the college this year, now works for GB Farrar in Hither Green.

He has been competing in the painting and decorating category against the other best trainees in the country.

This year Aron has already been named Dulux Apprentice of the Year and before this won the southern regional finals three years in a row.

In 2010 Aron won the Best in Kent award, and has also won the Southern Region Johnstones Young Painter of the Year and will go on to the national final at the painting and decorating show this year.

The three-day SkillBuild competition is staged by CITB-ConstructionSkills, the Sector Skills Council and Industry Training Board for the construction industry.

It saw more than 100 talented individuals battling to be crowned the best in their field in a range of skills including bricklaying, joinery, painting and decorating and carpentry.

Gillain Cain, regional delivery manager for CITB-ConstructionSkills in the South said: "We're so pleased to be able to bring together and motivate the country's most promising construction trainees in this nationwide competition.

"SkillBuild encourages excellence, helps to raise standards in training and is an exciting way to showcase the outstanding talent coming into the construction industry."

Philip Jubb, painting and decorating Lecturer at North West Kent College says: "Aron is an inspiration to our students and young people who are thinking of coming into the trade."

For more information about SkillBuild visit www.cskills.org/skillbuild.

What is your business doing to help Keep Kent Working? Do you send employees on training courses to aid their personal development or run apprenticeship schemes? If you have a good news story email editorial@kosmedia.co.uk or call us on 01303 817136.



PAINTING: Aron Baker with his work from the Dulux Apprentice of the Year competition

Projects on food toxins and wartime memories named on awards shortlist

TWO Kent projects backed by the University of Greenwich have been shortlisted for honours in the annual Times Higher Education awards.

An innovative new food safety system, ToxiMet, which checks the levels of health-threatening mycotoxins in products such as dried fruit and cereals, has been shortlisted in the category of outstanding contribution to innovation and technology.

Devised by Professor Ray Coker, and developed in the Natural Resources Institute laboratories at the university's Medway campus, the system has gone into commercial production through a university spin-out company and is now in use around the world.

ToxiMet, now based at the Kent Science Park in Sittingbourne, aims to make the system the standard by which all other systems are graded.

Memories of War has been recognised in the category of outstanding contribution to the local community. The brainchild of history lecturer Dr June Balshaw, the initiative trained students, staff and community volunteers to film and transcribe the wartime stories of more than 300 people. Following an exhibition, a book has been published and the website, www.memoriesofwar.org.uk, is being used as an educational resource by teachers, pupils, and researchers.

Many of the stories come from people who grew up in Kent or live there now, such as Dorothea French, who was living in Sidcup as a child when World War Two started. During the war she joined the Women's Land Army and was stationed at a farm in Edenbridge. Kenneth Taylor was living in Broadstairs when the war started and was later trained at the Chatham Royal Marine Barracks.

Vice-Chancellor Professor David Maguire said: "These two initiatives are a great example of the way in which the university uses its expertise to make a practical difference to people's lives – locally and internationally. Both demonstrate the important partnerships which are at the heart of so much of our work. I am proud of everyone involved and send them many congratulations."

Schools & education

Pupil's prize sees her A4 design turned into 20ft playground mural

STUDENTS from the Bishop of Rochester Academy in Chatham added some colour to the playground of a local primary school over their summer holiday by volunteering to paint a mural at Horsted Junior School.

Year 3 pupil at Horsted Junior School, Darcy Jamieson, was chosen as the winning entry in a competition organised by the school in association with local supermarket, Asda.

Her prize was to see her design transformed into a full-size mural.

Bishop of Rochester Academy students Adam Rogers, George Abbot, Liam Monk, Elliot Ransom, and Sean Gay, worked alongside staff from the Love to Learn Vocational Centre, based at the Bishop of Rochester Academy's East Campus, to translate Darcy's A4 drawing into the 20ft mural.

Despite the summer sun, the students were determined to complete the mural in time for the start of the new school year.

Headteacher of Horsted Junior School, Steven Geary said "We are really pleased with our fantastic mural and are so grateful to the Bishop of Rochester Academy Students for helping us make it happen.

"It has had a huge impact with both pupils and parents as they started back this week.

"It's great that schools working in the same community can collaborate in ways like this."

Art lecturer welded to the idea of peace monument's MiG sculpture

A BIZARRE peace sculpture has been created by fusing together a Russian fighter jet, and a famed Rolls Royce aero engine.

It was created by a lecturer from the University for the Creative Arts.

Anthony Heywood is head of sculpture on the BA (Hons) Fine Art degree at UCA Canterbury.

Over summer he spent three weeks in Sweden working with a group of international artists to make peace monuments out of old war materials.

He said: "It's been a fun but exhausting few weeks: taking apart a bullet-proof fighter jet is as hard as it sounds but it was fantastic to work with teams of artists from all over the world.

"The size of the work was monumental and couldn't be done without specialist lifting or cutting equipment – just removing the wings took four 12-hour days for a team of three – MiGs are not meant to come apart, it seems."

He welded the fuselage of the MiG to a British Merlin Rolls-Royce engine and suspended it over the River Abroga to create a three tonne statement.



TOOLS OF THE TRADE: Anthony Heywood

He said: "I wanted to juxtapose and collage two political and philosophical positions by bringing together iconic pieces of warcraft from two formerly hostile nations.

"The town of Abroga was a prominent producer of munitions for over 400 years and the river would have played an important part in the manufacturing and transporting process.

"I wanted the work to express the vulnerability of life and to remind all levels of community that something so iconic and powerful can also evoke fragility, which is why I chose to site it precariously above the water from a crane."

University's works of art to go on display at refurbished museum

A £14 million museum in Canterbury will house artwork from the University for the Creative Arts.

The Beaney House of Art and Knowledge opened to the public last week after a three-year refurbishment.

It is now showing rolling exhibitions of artists' books by students and staff at UCA Canterbury, plus other examples from its private collection.

Rebekah Taylor, archivist and special collections officer at UCA, said: "This is a great opportunity for the public to enjoy the depth and breadth of our fantastic collections.

"Artists' books are unique concepts which are closer to works of fine art and illustration than literature – they demonstrate unusual forms of narrative and graphic expression which make them a unique and exciting art form."

The Beaney art museum and library will soon be home to seven permanent galleries together with a state-of-the-art special exhibitions gallery and a collaborative space for use by artists and local groups.

The vision behind the project, a partnership between Canterbury and Kent councils, provides a huge range of opportunities under one roof for people to explore, learn and participate through a variety of permanent museum and art collections, special exhibitions, community engagement programmes and educational activities, they said.

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Independent Persons on Kent and Medway Police and Crime Panel

Kent County Council

On the 15 November 2012, Kent will be electing its first Police and Crime Commissioner who will be responsible for setting the priorities and resources for Kent Police, as well as supporting broader community safety activities across the region.

In addition to this a Police and Crime Panel will also be established to scrutinise the work of the Police and Crime Commissioner. The purpose of this role is to assist the Police and Crime Commissioner through providing independent challenge as a critical friend.

The Panel will be made up of one representative from each of the 14 local authorities in the force area, a further four councillor representatives from the local authorities and two independent co-opted members.

The Commissioner will be required to consult with the Panel on their plans and budget for policing, as well as the level of council tax and the appointment of a Chief Constable.

The Panel is looking for two committed and energetic people who either live or work within Kent to serve as co-opted independent members from November 2012 for a four year term. This is an exciting opportunity to be involved from the start of new and very different arrangements for reducing crime and disorder.

The role of a Panel member will be an important and demanding one. The typical commitment required from a member of the Panel is expected to average one day a month, including preparation time.

Meetings will generally be held during normal office hours at varying locations throughout Kent. All Panel members will be able to claim reasonable travelling expenses. All Panel members will receive induction and other appropriate training.

For a copy of the application pack see www.kent.gov.uk/pages/job or telephone Anna Taylor 01622 694764 or email anna.taylor@kent.gov.uk. The closing date for applications is midday on 28 September 2012.

The Panel wishes to reflect the breadth of communities in the Kent area and welcomes applications from all eligible people irrespective of gender, ethnic origin, religious belief, sexual orientation, disability or other factor.

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Due to continued high levels of business, Kent's leading driving agency - Mainstream Staff Supplies, needs the following staff for a leading supermarket distribution centre in Snodland Kent. There are various positions available for both Class 1&2 Drivers, and we are open to any availability. New passes considered, but a maximum of 6 points is acceptable. Subject to assessment. Immediate starts.

SALARIED/PERMANENT LGV 1 DRIVERS
LGV 1 x 5 Salaried Nt Drivers 5/6 Shift Patterns £28,500-£31,000
LGV 1 x 3 Salaried Dy Drivers 5/6 Shift Patterns £26,500 - £28,000
LGV 2 x 3 Salaried Dy Drivers 5 Shift Patters £21,000
All of the above will involve patterns based around weekends.

CASUAL/FULL TIME LGV I + LGV II DRIVERS
LGV 1 x 5 Shifts available Day and Night £9.40 - £12.80 per hour
LGV 2 x 3 Shifts available Days and Weekends £8.40 - £12.00 per hour

PART TIME
LGV 1 x 5 Shifts available to suit Friday to Monday, Day or Night
LGV 2 x 5 Weekend shifts available Sat £10.50 Sun £12.00

Travel and subsistence payroll system and holiday pay accrued on every shift. Subject to a paid assessment. Immediate starts available.
Contact Jamie or Graham on 01795 418 111, or email CV to graham.knowles@recruitandtrain.com

Command recruitment

Our client, a highly respected global manufacturer within the automotive industry, is recruiting for a **Supplier Quality Assurance Engineer** to work from their offices near Sittingbourne. This is a varied and exciting role which would most suit someone with an Engineering background within the automotive industry. The position will involve regular travel within the UK and some occasionally in Europe.

Required Experience
- Supplier Relationship Management
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- Knowledge of supply chain management

The salary on offer is competitive for the industry at £35,000 per annum (STE) plus a car allowance.

All interested parties should contact Scott Gunn at Command Recruitment or apply via our website.

01622 808002
cvs@command.co.uk
www.command.co.uk

To advertise in this section
01303 817056

Oasis Domestic Abuse Service

is currently recruiting for the position of

Volunteer Coordinator

Please refer to our website at
http://www.oasiswomensrefuge.org/vacancies.html
for a description of the post and contact details.

Closing date for applications is
28th September 2012.

We are an Equal Opportunities organisation. This role is exempt under the Equality Act 2010 pursuant to Schedule 9, Part 1. As such we can only consider applications from women.

Due to expansion, Umbermaster has two
Part-time Showroom Assistant vacancies
for their new Showroom in Lenleys in Canterbury.
Must be computer literate.
Please send CV or apply in writing to Nikki Bailey,
Umbermaster Ltd, 19-25 Blenheim Close, Pysons Road Industrial Estate, Broadstairs, CT10 2YF
(info@umbermaster.co.uk)



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We now require both Self-employed and PAYE SKILLED Multi-trade personnel with at least the following skills:

Plastering AND wall papering AND painting/decorating.

ALL applicants are required to have good communication skills and hold a current Driving licence/CRB check and preferably have facility/capability for sending/receiving emails. For those who wish to work as Self Employed we also require to see their CIS/UTR number/Public Liability insurance/Vehicle Insurance. Self employed applicants need to have their own insured van. Previous experience within the insurance industry would be advantageous.

For an application pack please contact: email: pat.slater@regentgroup.co.uk or Louise on 01322 626240.

Public Appointments

Abbey Court School

"We grow people"

.....a 'special' school and a 'special' place to work.

We are currently looking for a

TEACHING ASSISTANT

to join and enhance our large and expanding, high calibre team.

Medway Scale, Grade D2
£15,039 - £19,126 pro-rata + SEN Allowance (£1,177)

Are you committed, motivated and enthusiastic? Does 'Every Child Matter' to you? Can you make a difference? If so, share your talents and expertise with us.

Abbey Court is located on 2 sites; Rainham (Nursery and Primary) and Strood (Secondary and Further Education), and caters for pupils aged 3-19 with Severe Learning Difficulties. Working hours are 32.5 p/w (8.45am - 3.45pm), term time only. **Only those with childcare experience, or relevant childcare qualifications should apply**. Comprehensive training and induction will be provided.

Due to the conditions and complex needs of the pupils at Abbey Court School, continuity and consistency of support is paramount and therefore candidates for all positions will need to commit to the full working hours of the post.

This School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of appointment for post is subject to a satisfactory Criminal Record Bureau Disclosure.

For an application pack, please write to/telephone (stating the role for which you are applying):
Mrs Linda Taylor, Abbey Court School, Rede Court Road, Strood, Kent. ME2 3SP (01634 338236)

Please note CV's will not be accepted.

Closing date: 21.9.12

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1 x Support Worker – Part-time 28 hours per week. Applicants will be supporting people with a learning disability and experience in care will be an advantage.

For all enquiries telephone 01474 354212

Closing date 28th September 2012.

Abbey Court School

"We grow people"

Abbey Court School provides a stimulating, challenging and safe learning environment where pupils and staff efforts, work and achievement are celebrated.

We are currently looking for a....

Senior Physiotherapist

to join and enhance our high calibre team

Medway Scale A - point 37 to 46 (£30,851 to £38,961)
(Full time - term time only - pro rata)

Abbey Court School is located on 2 sites; Rainham (Nursery and Primary) and Strood (Secondary and Further Education), and caters for pupils aged 3-19 with Severe Learning Difficulties. We are looking for an enthusiastic and experienced Physiotherapist, with a professional and flexible approach. In essence, somebody with an interest in an educational setting who would like to work in a school committed to enabling pupils to reach their full potential.

Working hours are 37 hours p/w, term time only. Candidates should hold a relevant Physiotherapy qualification. Benefits include: Local Authority pension scheme, induction training, performance management programme and Continuous Professional Development. Visits to the school are welcomed.

Due to the conditions and complex needs of the pupils at Abbey Court School, continuity and consistency of support is paramount and therefore candidates for all positions will need to commit to the full working hours of the post.

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. Any offer of appointment for post is subject to a satisfactory Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure.

Closing Date: 28.9.12

For an application pack, or to make an appointment to visit, please contact Mrs Linda Taylor, Business Manager, Abbey Court School, Rede Court Road, Strood, Kent, ME2 3SP (01634 338236), stating the position for which you are applying.

Please note CV's will not be accepted.

Public Sector

You can also find the latest jobs online: www.jobs24.co.uk/kent

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Public Appointments



Bradstow School

Bradstow is a creative and unique residential school for children between the ages of 5 & 19. It is situated in 13 acres of parkland just a few hundred metres from the sandy beaches of Broadstairs. We seek to meet the needs of children and young people with autism and severe learning difficulties with associated behaviours that may be challenging. We have achieved national recognition for our developments in Communication and Behaviour Management.

HOUSEPARENT - CHILDCARE

Working as part of the childcare team, this role involves providing care and support to students mornings, evenings and weekends, being a student's Keyworker and some management responsibility.

£19,621 – £22,221 per annum – 41 hours per week (including split shifts and weekends) – term time only, plus 2 weeks*

TEMPORARY QCF ASSESSOR (1 YEAR) – 20 HOURS

To deliver vocational qualifications, coaching and assessment of learners in accordance with the National Standards using a range of assessment methods. The successful candidate will hold a Childcare Qualification Level III or above, the A1 Assessor Award with QCF Update and PTTLS.

£9,317 – £10,311 per annum – 20 hours per week – term time only

CHILDCARE SUPPORT ASSISTANTS

As part of the childcare team, these roles involve providing care and support to students mornings, evenings and weekends.

£11,128 plus 10% per annum – 36.5 hours per week, (including weekends) – term time only, plus 2 weeks*

TEAM SUPPORT WORKERS – FLEXI-BANK

As part of the childcare team, or the class team, these roles involve providing care and support to students from Classrooms to Childcare Teams afternoons and evenings during the week and late or early shifts each weekend, or assisting teachers and childcare team leaders in the school during school hours.

£7.21 per hour – when required (up to 41 hours per week including split shifts and weekends)

*For these roles there will also be up to a maximum of two weeks for the school's respite care provision if required, for which extra payment would be paid.

For all posts we look for candidates who are mature, warm, creative and open to learning with a patient and caring attitude to deal sensitively with vulnerable children.

We are committed to sustainability and preserving the environment and therefore encourage applications by email, so for an application form and information pack please email personnel@bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk

Or you may call 01843 608727 (24 hour recruitment answer machine).

Please note that CVs will not be considered.

The closing date for all applications is 12 noon Friday 28th September 2012.

www.bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk

To advertise in this section

01303 817056

spencer private hospital

The Spencer Private Hospital is the independently owned and managed 22 bed private hospital situated on the QEQM Hospital site. We also have a 4 bed unit at the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford. The continuing growth of our business has resulted in vacancies for the following staff:

These posts are primarily located at Margate but will be moving to our head office based in Dover in the near future

PATIENT CHOICE ADMINISTRATOR

Full time position

Experience within a medical environment desirable

BOOKINGS ADMINISTRATOR

Full time position

Experience within a medical environment desirable

Closing date for applications Friday 21 September

To discuss these opportunities please contact:

Paul Parish - Business Office Manager
01843 234555 ext 63316

For job description and application form please contact:

Jo Edwards
East Kent Medical Services Ltd
Spencer Private Hospital
Ramsgate Road
Margate
Kent CT9 4BG
Telephone: 01843 234556
Fax: 01843 296333
E-mail: jo.edwards@thespencerwing.com

The Spencer Private Hospital is an equal opportunity employer These positions are subject to a Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure check.

spencer private hospital

The Spencer Private Hospital is the independently owned and managed 22 bed private hospital situated on the QEQM Hospital site. We also have a 4 bed unit at the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford. The continuing growth of our business has resulted in vacancies for the following staff:

PHYSIOTHERAPIST - Flexi Bank

Diploma/degree in Physiotherapy

Current HPC registration

Evidence of up-to-date CPD portfolio, including evidence related to the treatment of Orthopaedic inpatients and MSK outpatients

Closing date for applications Friday 21 September

To discuss this opportunity please contact:

Suresh Bandaru - Physiotherapy Manager
01843 234555 ext 63361

For job description and application form please contact:

Jo Edwards
East Kent Medical Services Ltd
Spencer Private Hospital
Ramsgate Road
Margate
Kent CT9 4BG
Telephone: 01843 234556
Fax: 01843 296333
E-mail: jo.edwards@thespencerwing.com

The Spencer Private Hospital is an equal opportunity employer. This position is subject to a Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure check.

Swale Academies Trust

Westlands School

Westlands Avenue,Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 1PF

Teaching Assistants

Required for immediate start

Salary £13,032 - £16,144 (pro rata) (equal to £7,866 to £9,744 depending on experience)

An opportunity has arisen to appoint support staff to the following term time only positions:-

2 x 27 hours per week posts supporting pupils in mainstream classes

Applicants should have the necessary skills to support pupils who have various difficulties in mainstream classes, in small groups or on an individual basis. A particular interest in the areas of mathematics and / or science would be an advantage. Candidates would be expected to have good literacy and numeracy skills.

Recruitment packs are available from Westlands School or online (www.westlands.org.uk). Please note that we cannot accept CVs without an application form. Closing date: 19 September 2012

Swale Academies Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is subject to an enhanced CRB check.

Contact Details
Tel: 01795 477475 Fax: 01795 479461
Email swa@westlands.kent.sch.uk
Trust Principal: Mr J Whitcombe MA

Swale Academies Trust Company No 7344732
Registered Office: Ashdown House, Johnson Road, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 1JS

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HIGHWAYS

HIGHWAYS - KENT

VARIOUS ROADS, KENT (RESURFACING) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

To allow a programme of carriageway resurfacing works to be carried out, Kent County Council has made an Order to restrict traffic on various roads in Kent, as shown below.

The Order will become effective on or after 10 September 2012 for up to 3 months, or until the works have been completed.

Please note that this Order supersedes that previously published, and incorporates revised dates to those initially notified.

The planned dates and times for each road closure or restriction are shown below, in a Schedule listed in alphabetical order of District.

Planned dates will be indicated by signage displayed on site 14 days in advance. Road closures and other restrictions will be in effect when the appropriate signage and barriers are in place.

Every effort will be made to keep to the schedule shown below. Some minor modifications may be made to dates and duration of works, to be advised once known.

Adverse weather conditions may prevent some works being carried out on the planned dates.

Roads that are missed will be re-scheduled, as advised locally and signposted on site.

SCHEDULE

ASHFORD

A20 HYTHE ROAD ASHFORD - during resurfacing works on Hythe Road between **2** and **16 October 2012** (excluding Saturday 13 October), between Junction 10 Willesborough Interchange and Summer Hill, the following traffic restrictions will apply:

The approach road to Tesco, Willesborough will be closed overnight on Sunday 14 October, between 7.30 pm until 5.00 am

The Street, Willesborough - the One-way Traffic Order will be suspended between the junctions with Hinxhill Road and A20 Hythe Road, when indicated on site.

Alternative route via A2070 Kennington Road, Willesborough Interchange and A20 Hythe Road.

A28 CHART ROAD, ASHFORD - closed between Brookfield Road roundabout and Loudon Way

16 - 19 October 2012 - 8.00 pm until 5.00 am

Alternative route via A28 Chart Road, Templer Way, Drovers Roundabout, A292 Maidstone Road, (also Chart Road in reverse), New Street, Forge Lane, West Street, Godinton Road, Elwick Road, A2042 Beaver Road, Victoria Road, Leacon Road and Brookfield Road.

CANTERBURY

A257 LITTLEBOURNE ROAD, CANTERBURY - closed between the junction with Warwick Road and the St Martin's Hospital Entrance

10 & 11 September 2012 - overnight between 8.00 pm until 2.00 am

Alternative route via A257 Littlebourne Road, Canterbury Road, The Hill, High Street, Canterbury Road, B2046 Adisham Road, Old Dover Road, A2 Dover Road, A2050 New Dover Road, A257 Lower Chantry Lane, Longport and St. Martin's Hill.

'PRIEST AND SOW CORNER' TANKERTON, WHITSTABLE

Bennells Avenue, Herne Bay Road, St Swithin's Road and Tankerton Road - The 4 roads making up the one-way system will be closed in 2 phases, on **5 & 8 October 2012** (i.e. excluding the weekend)

When Herne Bay Road and Bennells Avenue are closed, the alternative route is via Tankerton Road and St. Swithin's Road

When St Swithin's Road and Tankerton Road are closed, the alternative route is via Herne Bay Road and Bennells Avenue.

Side roads will be closed at their junctions with the above roads at certain stages, with local diversions in place.

DARTFORD

B260 GREEN STREET GREEN ROAD / MAIN ROAD, LONGFIELD - closed between Canada Farm Road and Station Road

26 - 28 September 2012 - 19.00 to 05:00

Alternative route via B255 Whitehill Road, Westwood Road, B262 Station Road, A2 Watling Street, A296 Princes Road, B260 Green Street Green Road, Trolling Down Hill and Green Street Green Road

DOVER

A256 WHITFIELD BYPASS, TILMANSTONE, DOVER

The Roundabout at the junction with Barville Road and Boys Hill will be closed in 2 phases.

24 September - 3 October 2012 - (excluding the weekend) - 9.30 am to 3.30 pm

Alternative route via A256 Eastry Bypass, Sandwich Road, A258 Deal Road, Sandwich Road, London Road, Queen Street, Broad Street, Beach Street, Deal Castle Road, (Victoria Road and Ranelagh Road in reverse) The Strand, Dover Road, A2 Trunk Road, and A256 Whitfield Bypass.

A256 WHITFIELD HILL, DOVER - closed for its entire length

8 - 19 October 2012 (excluding weekends) - 8.00 pm until 5.00 am

Alternative route via A256 London Road (River), Crabble Hill, Whitfield Avenue, (Brookfield Avenue, Buckland Avenue, Cherry Tree Avenue,

London Road and Bunkers Hill in reverse) Green Lane, Melbourne Avenue, Honeywood Parkway, Honeywood Road.

A256 WHITFIELD / EASTRY BYPASS, EASTRY, DOVER

The Roundabout at the junction with Dover Road and Cater Road will be closed in 2 phases.

22 October - 24 October 2012 - 9.30 am to 3.30 pm

Alternative route via A256 Eastry Bypass, Sandwich Road, A258 Deal Road, Sandwich Road, London Road, Queen Street, Broad Street, Beach Street, Deal Castle Road, (Victoria Road and Ranelagh Road in reverse) The Strand, Dover Road, A2 Trunk Road, and A256 Whitfield Bypass.

A256 / B2011 YORK STREET, DOVER (Roundabout only)

The roundabout at the junction between York Street and Folkestone Road will be closed in 2 phases

24 - 29 October 2012 (excluding the weekend) - 8.00 pm until 2.00 am

Alternative routes

Eastern Section: via Priory Road, Ladywell, Park Place, Park Street, Maison Dieu Road, Woolcomber Street, Townwall Street, York Street roundabout and York Street.

Western section: via Folkestone Road, Elms Vale Road, Eaton Road, Astor Avenue, Tower Street, Tower Hamlets Road, Bridge Street, Frith Road, Connaught Road, Castle Hill Road, Woolcomber Street and Townwall Street.

Worthington Street, Dover - the one way Traffic Order will be reversed between Biggin Street and York Street, during the closure of the eastern half of the roundabout

Biggin Street, Dover - the one way Traffic Order will be suspended between Pencester Road and Edwards Road during the closure of eastern half of the roundabout.

A256 SANDWICH BYPASS, SANDWICH - North Poulders Roundabout and approaches (Junction with the A257 Sandwich Road / Ash Road) will be closed in phases.

26 October - 8 November 2012 - (excluding weekends) - 8.00 pm until 5.00 am

Alternative route for all through traffic via B2046 Adisham Road, A2 Trunk Road, A256 Whitfield By-pass, Eastry By-pass and Sandwich Road.

Roundabout and Sandwich Road approach

Alternative route for local traffic via A257 Sandwich Road, Marshborough Road, Foxborough Hill, Woodnesborough Lane, Poison Cross, Sandwich Road, A256 Sandwich Road and A256 Sandwich Bypass.

Roundabout and The Causeway approach

Alternative route via The Causeway, Strand Street, High Street, The Chain, Galliard Street, (and Harnet Street in reverse),New Street, Dover Road, Deal Road, A258 Deal Road and A256 Sandwich Bypass.

GRAVESHAM

A226 OVERCLIFFE, NORTHFLEET - closed between St. James's Street and Bath Street.

12 - 17 September 2012 (excluding the weekend) - 7.00 pm until midnight

Alternative route via A226 Bath Street, West Street and Thames Way.

B2175 LONDON ROAD, NORTHFLEET - closed between Rural Vale and St Mark's Avenue.

14 - 20 September 2012 - 8.00 pm until 5.00 am (excluding the weekend)

Alternative route via A226 Thames Way, B2175 Stonebridge Way and B2175 The Hill.

HALL ROAD ROUNDABOUT, NORTHFLEET - Close roundabout and all approaches to it - A2260 Springhead Road, Hall Road and B262 Hall Road Overbridge will be closed in phases.

20 - 25 September 2012 (excluding the weekend) - 8.00 pm until 5.00 am

Alternative route via A2 Watling Street, A227 Wrotham Road, Coldharbour Road, Perry Street, B261 Dover Road and A226 Thames Way

VALLEY DRIVE, GRAVESEND - closed between St. Aidan's Way and Valley Drive Roundabout (Lorry Park Entrance)

20 - 28 September 2012 (excluding the weekend) - 8.00 pm until 5.00 am

Alternative route via Hever Court Road, Singlewell Road, B261 Old Road East and Valley Drive

A226 SPRINGHEAD ROAD ROUNDABOUT, NORTHFLEET

The roundabout and all approaches to roundabout - A226 Thames Way, A2260 Springhead Road (up to 50 metres from the roundabout)

26 - 28 September 2012 (excluding the weekend) - 8.00 pm until 5.00 am

Alternative route via A2260 Springhead Road, Hall Road, Perry Street, B261 Dover Road, A226 Thames Way and B2175 London Road

MAIDSTONE

B2010 SMITHS HILL, MAIDSTONE - closed between Hunt Street and Ewell Lane

12 - 14 September 2012 - 9.30 am to 3.30 pm

Alternative route via Smiths Hill, Yalding Hill, High Street, Lees Road, Hampstead Lane, Maidstone Road, Bow Road, Tonbridge Road and Teston Lane

B2163 HEATH ROAD, BOUGHTON MONCHELSEA - closed between A274 Sutton Road and A229 Linton Road

14 - 18 September 2012 - 7.00 pm to midnight

Alternative route via Linton Road, Loose Road and Sutton Road.

B2012 STACEYS STREET, MAIDSTONE - closed at approach to Roundabout

17 & 18 September 2012 - 8.00 pm to midnight

Alternative route via Staceys Street, Chatham Road, Sandling Road and Boxley Road

B2163 LOWER STREET, LEEDS - closed between Ashford Road Roundabout and Leeds Road

9 - 11 October 2012 - 8.00 pm until 2.00 am

Alternative route via Leeds Road, Sutton Road, Willington Street and Ashford Road.

B2163 PENFOLD HILL, LEEDS - closed between Ashford Road Roundabout and Leeds Road

9 - 11 October 2012 - 8.00 pm until 2.00 am

Alternative route via Leeds Road, Sutton Road, Willington Street and Ashford Road.

B2162 HAMPSTEAD LANE, YALDING - closed from the railway bridge north-eastwards for approximately 100 metres

1 - 2 November 2012 - 9.30 am to 3.30 pm

Alternative route via Hampstead Lane, Maidstone Road, Boyle Way, Branbridges Road, Beltring Road, Gravelly Ways and Leeds Road.

SEVENOAKS

A224 LONDON ROAD, SEVENOAKS - closed between Oak Hill Road and The Drive

1 - 5 October 2012 - 9.00 pm until 5.00 am

Alternative route via A224 London Road, Amherst Hill, London Road, A25 Bradbourne Vale Road, A225 St. John's Hill, Dartford Road, Pembroke Road and A224 London Road.

A224 LONDON ROAD, DUNTON GREEN - closed between A224 Morants Court Road and Barrett's Road

5 - 7 November 2012 - 9.00 pm until 5.00 am

Alternative route via A224 London Road, A25 Worships Hill, Main Road, B2211 Chevening Road, Ovenden Road, Sundridge Road and A224 Morants Court Road

SWALE

B2005 GROVEHURST ROAD, SITTINGBOURNE - closed at the approach to Swale Way Roundabout

28 September - 1 October 2012 - 7.00 pm until 5.00 am

Alternative route via Saffron Way, Mill Way, St. Paul's Street, Staplehurst Road, A249 and Grovehurst Road.

B2005 GROVEHURST ROAD, SITTINGBOURNE - closed between North Street to Newman Drive Roundabout

Sunday 7 October 2012 - 9.00 am to 5.00 pm

Alternative route via Saffron Way, Mill Way, St. Paul's Street, Staplehurst Road, A249 and Grovehurst Road.

A2 ST. MICHAEL'S ROAD, SITTINGBOURNE - Closed at the East Street roundabout exit into St. Michael's Road

Sunday 28 October 2012 - 9.00 am to 5.00 pm

Alternative route via East Street and Crown Quay Lane

THANET

B2050 MANSTON ROAD, RAMSGATE - closed from Princess Margaret Avenue to and including Tesco Roundabout

1 October 2012 - 1 night, 10.00 pm to 5.00 am (Tesco roundabout)

1 - 4 October 2012 - 4 days, 9.30 am - 3.30 pm (Princess Margaret Avenue - Tesco Roundabout)

Alternative route via High Street, Newington Road, High Street St. Lawrence, Nethercourt Hill, Canterbury Road East and Haine Road.

ROYAL PARADE, LEOPOLD STREET and MADERIA WALK, RAMSGATE

- closed between Queen Street and Albion Place

2 - 8 October 2012 - 8.00 pm until 5.00 am (excluding Friday and weekend)

Alternative route via Queen Street, West Cliff Road, London Road, Nethercourt Hill, High Street St. Lawrence, Park Road, Boundary Road, Victoria Road and Wellington Crescent.

TONBRIDGE AND MALLING

A228 HOLBOROUGH ROAD, SNODLAND - closed between Constitution Hill and A228 Snodland By-pass

11 October 2012 - 7.00 pm until 5.00 am.

Alternative route via Malling Road, A228 Ham Hill Roundabout and A228 Snodland By-pass

MALLING ROAD, SNODLAND - closed between A228 Snodland Bypass and Hollow Lane

11 October 2012 - 7.00 pm until 5.00 am.

Alternative route via Malling Road, Holborough Road, A228 Snodland Bypass, Ladds Lane Roundabout, A228 Snodland Bypass and Ham Hill Roundabout.

A228 Snodland By-Pass (Southbound), Snodland - there will be No Right Turn into Holborough Road, Snodland

Alternative route via A228 Snodland By-pass, Ham Hill Roundabout and Malling Road

TUNBRIDGE WELLS

A264 MOUNT EPHRAIM, TUNBRIDGE WELLS - closed between Royal Wells Hotel and A26 London Road

3 & 4 October 2012 - 7.00 pm until midnight

Alternative route via London Road, Church Road and Mount Ephraim.

B2017 TUDELEY ROAD (Five Oak Green Road, Tudeley Lane) TUNBRIDGE WELLS - closed at the junction with Postern Lane, with no through access between between Somer Hill and Hartlake Road

4 & 5 October 2012 - 7.00 pm through until 5.00 am

Alternative route via Woodgate Way, Pembury Road, Hastings Road, Pembury Northern Bypass, Maidstone Road, Badsell Road and Five Oak Green Road.

CALVERLEY ROAD, TUNBRIDGE WELLS - closed between Calverley Street and Crescent Road

5 - 8 October 2012 - 7.00 pm until midnight

Alternative route via Crescent Road, Mount Pleasant Road and Monson Road.

Garden Street, Tunbridge Wells - the One-way Traffic Order will be suspended for its entire length.

B2100 TOWN HILL, LAMBERHURST - closed between Furnace Lane and The Broadway

8 - 10 October 2012 - 9.30 am to 3.00 pm, between Spray Hill and Pearce Place, then 8.30 am to 5.00 pm once past Pearce Place.

Alternative route via Spray Hill and The Down.

A264 CRESCENT ROAD, TUNBRIDGE WELLS - closed between Calverley Road and Calverley Park

18 October 2012 - 7.00 pm until midnight

Alternative route via Calverley Road, Monson Road, Mount Pleasant Road and Crescent Road.

HIGHWAYS - ASHFORD AREA

A20 ASHFORD ROAD & WOOTTON LANE, CHARING (RESTRICTIONS ON TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Due to the refurbishment of Westwell Leacon railway bridge, Kent County Council has made an Order restricting traffic on A20 Ashford Road and Wootton Lane, Charing, on or after 17 September 2012 for up to 20 weeks or until the works have been completed.

A20 ASHFORD ROAD, CHARING - a temporary mandatory speed limit of 40 mph will be imposed from the centreline of Westwell Leacon bridge, for a distance of approximately 300 metres northwards and approximately 170 metres southwards.

WOOTTON LANE, CHARING will be closed from the junction with the A20 Ashford Road for a distance of approximately 50 metres north eastwards

The alternative route is via A20 Ashford Road, Wicken Lane, Westwell Lane and Wootton Lane.

CHILHAM MILL & MYSTOLE LANE LEVEL CROSSINGS, CHILHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of level crossing maintenance, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Chilham Mill & Mystole Lane Level Crossings, Chilham, as shown below.

MILL LANE, CHILHAM will be closed at the level crossing from Sunday 16 September 2012 at 7.00 am until 8pm.

There is no alternative route as the road is a cul-de-sac. Every effort will be made to maintain access whenever it

For further information, please contact Kent County Council Highways and Transportation, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent County Council

HIGHWAYS

is safe to do so.

MYSTOLE LANE, CHILHAM (Pickelden Lane) will be closed at the level crossing from Sunday 16 September 2012 at 1.10 am through until Monday 17 September at 4.00 am.

The alternative route is via A28 Canterbury Road, Shalmsford Street, Thruxted Lane, Mystole Road and Pickleden Lane.

NEWCHURCH ROAD, BILSINGTON (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to install a new telegraph pole, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Newchurch Road, Bilsington, on or after 4 October 2012, between 9.30 am and 3.30 pm.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of 'Homestead', with no access for through traffic between the junction with Wills Lane and the junction with the un-named road to the east of this.

The alternative route is via Newchurch Road, B2067 Bonnington Road, Knoll Hill, Giggers Green Road, Eastbridge Road, the un-named road from this to Newchurch then Newchurch Road.

HIGHWAYS - CANTERBURY AREA

SPENSER ROAD, HERNE BAY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of gas mains replacement works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Spenser Road, Herne Bay, on or after 1 October 2012 for up to 8 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from the junction with Canterbury Road to outside number 87, with no access for through traffic between the junctions with Canterbury Road and Douglas Road.

The alternative route is via Canterbury Road, Mickleburgh Hill and Douglas Road.

HIGHWAYS - GRAVESHAM AREA

ST MARKS AVENUE, NORTHFLEET (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of drainage improvement works, Kent County Council has intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on St Marks Avenue, Northfleet, on or after 24 September 2012 for up to 3 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed Between properties 91 and 127.

There will be no access for through traffic between properties 91 and 127.

The alternative route will be via London Road, Marina Drive and St Marks Avenue.

HIGHWAYS - MAIDSTONE AREA

MORRY LANE, EAST SUTTON (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because it is necessary to install a new drainage system, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Morry Lane, East Sutton, on or after 17 September 2012 for up to 3 weeks or until the works have been completed.

There will be no access for through traffic from the junction of Chartway Street for approximately 25 metres.

The alternative route is via Chartway Street, Charlton Lane.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (QUEEN'S ROAD, BOROUGH OF MAIDSTONE) (WAITING RESTRICTIONS AND STREET PARKING PLACES) ORDER 2012

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL, acting as the Local Traffic Authority and in exercise of their powers and under sections 1(1), 2(1) to (3), 3(2), 4(1) and (2), 32(1), 35(1), 44, 46, 49 and 53 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (hereinafter called "the Act"), and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Paragraph 20 of Part III of Schedule 9 to the said Act of 1984, intends to make the above named Order:

The effect of the proposed named Order (Waiting Restrictions and Street Parking Places) will introduce new or to amend existing waiting restrictions in the following lengths of road (in this part of the notice DYL means waiting to be prohibited at all times by double yellow lines);

Queen's Road, Maidstone - North side, that length which extends from a point 10 metres southwest of its junction with Malling Terrace to a point 40 metres southwest of its junction with Freshland Road in a south-westerly direction.

South side, that length which extends from its junction with Malling Terrace to a point 40 metres southwest of its junction with Freshland Road in a south-westerly direction.

Freshland Road, Maidstone -Both sides, that length which extends from its junction with Queen's Road for a distance of 23 metres in a north-westerly direction.

Full details of the proposed Order, together with the relevant plans and any Orders amended by the Order and a statement of reasons for proposing to make the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at Kent County Council Offices, Sessions House, Maidstone, ME14 1XQ and Maidstone Borough Council Offices, The Gateway, King Street, Maidstone, ME15 6JQ.

Any person wishing to support the proposal, or to object to it, should send the grounds in writing to The Traffic Schemes and Member Highway Fund Manager, Kent County Council Highways, Javelin Way, Ashford, TN24 8AD or by email to TRO@kent.gov.uk and stating their reasons, not later than Monday 29th day of October 2012

TESTON LANE, TESTON (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of maintenance tamping and RSM inspection by Network Rail, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Teston Lane, Teston, on or after 23 September 2012 for up to 1 day between 07.00hrs and 23.00hrs or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed from A26 Tonbridge Road to Teston Country Park.

The alternative route is via A26 Tonbridge Road, Farleigh Lane, Station Road, B2010 Lower Road, Teston Lane.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (VARIOUS ROADS, DISTRICT OF MAIDSTONE) (WEIGHT RESTRICTIONS) ORDER 2012

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

The Kent County Council, acting as the local traffic authority and in exercise of their powers under sections 1 and 2 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (hereinafter called the Act), and of all other enabling powers and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the said Act of 1984, intends to make the following Order:

PROHIBITION OF VEHICLES EXCEEDING 7.5 tonne

Old Loose Road - for its entire length - from its northern junction with A229 Loose Road to its southern junction with A229 Loose Road.

High Banks - from its junction with Old Loose Road to its junction with Bus Bridge Road.

Bus Bridge Road - from its junction with High Banks to its junction with Stockett Lane.

Stockett Lane - from its junction with Bus Bridge Road to its junction with Straw Mill Hill.

Straw Mill Hill - from its junction with Stockett Lane to its junction with B2010 Farleigh Hill.

Full details of the proposed Order, together with the relevant plans and any Orders amended by the proposed Order and a statement of reasons for making the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at the Offices of Maidstone Borough Council Offices, The Gateway, King Street, Maidstone, ME15 6JQ and at Kent County Council, Sessions House, Maidstone ME14 1XQ during normal opening times.

Any person wishing to support the proposal, or to object to it, should send the grounds in writing to The Traffic Schemes and Member Highway Fund Manager, Kent County Council Highways, Javelin Way, Ashford, TN24 8AD or by email to TRO@kent.gov.uk and stating their reasons, not later than Monday 29th day of October 2012

HIGHWAYS - SEVENOAKS AREA

BURLINGS LANE, KNOCKHOLT (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of new gas service to be installed , Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Burlings Lane, Knockholt, on or after 1st October 2012 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed outside Burwood.

There will be no access for through traffic between the junctions with Main road and Shelleys Lane.

The alternative route is via Main Road and Shelleys Lane.

COLD ARBOR ROAD, CHEVENING (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of footway improvement works, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Cold Arbor Road, Chevening, on or after 1st October 2012 for up to 6 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed at the junction with A25 Westerham Road.

There will be no access for through traffic at the junction with A25 Westerham Road.

The alternative route is via Cold Arbor Road, Bessels Green Road, Wheatsheaf Hill, Ide Hill Road, Green Lane, Toys Field Road, Spot Lane, Hose Common Road, Hosey Hill, A25 Brasted Road, A25 Main Road, A25 Westerham Road.

EAST HILL ROAD, WEST KINGSDOWN, SEVENOAKS (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

For the safety of the public and workforce due to the road being too narrow for a rig to be put in place, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on East Hill Road, West Kingsdown, Sevenoaks, on or after 14th September 2012 for up to 12 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed outside Meadow Wood.

There will be no access for through traffic at East Hill Road.

The alternative route is not applicable as this is a dead end road.

HIGHWAYS - SHEPWAY AREA

BARTHOLOMEW STREET, HYTHE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to provide a new gas supply, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Bartholomew Street, Hythe, on or after 17 September 2012 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed at the rear of 29B High Street.

The alternative route is via Hillside Street and Old Malthouse Hill

STOMBERS LANE, HAWKINGE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to provide a new water supply, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Stombers Lane, Hawkinge, on or after 1 October 2012 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed in the vicinity of Bramdene, appoximately 120 metres to the east of the junction with Cowgate Lane.

There will be no access for through traffic between Hawkinge and Alkham Valley Road using this route.

The alternative route is via Cowgate Lane, Standen Lane and Alkham Valley Road.

HIGHWAYS - SWALE AREA

NELSON STREET, FAVERSHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

To allow phone ducting to be placed in the carriageway, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Nelson Street, Faversham, on or after 20 September 2012 for up to 1 day, between 9.30 am and 3.30 pm.

The road will be closed outside property numbers 2 & 3.

The alternative route is via The Mall, Preston Lane and Preston Grove.

SCHOOL LANE, IWADE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works to provide services for a new development, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on School Lane, Iwade, on or after 17 September 2012 for up to 12 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between property numbers 66 and 90.

The alternative route is via Sheppey Way, Stockfast Lane and High Oak Hill.

HIGHWAYS - THANET AREA

HALL BY THE SEA ROAD, MARGATE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER SEPTEMBER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of works requiring the use of a mobile crane, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Hall By The Sea Road, Margate, on or after 17 September 2012, at various times for an overall period of up to 4 weeks.

The road will be closed as and when required, as notified locally and indicated by signs and barriers, to allow the use of the mobile crane on adjacent buildings.

The alternative route is Marine Terrace and Belgrave Road.

HIGHWAYS - TONBRIDGE & MALLING AREA

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (MILL STREET, LEVEL CROSSING, SNODLAND) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Mill Street at the level crossing on or after Sunday 7th October 2012 between 08.00hrs and 20.00hrs for a period of up to 1 day or until such works are complete.

Network Rail apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works that are necessary for a RSM inspection at the level crossing. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Kirsty Mallinson on 01924 372957.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (VARIOUS ROADS, EAST MALLING, TONBRIDGE & MALLING) (30 MPH SPEED LIMIT) ORDER 2012

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDER 1984

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL, acting as the Local Traffic Authority and in exercise of their powers under sections 81, 82 and 83 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the said Act of 1984, intends to make the following Order:-

The effect of the proposed Order will introduce a 30 mph Speed Limit on the following length of roads:

Clare Lane, East Malling and Lucks Hill, West Malling: That length of Clare Lane which extends from its junction with Mill Street to a point on Lucks Hill 52 metres east of its junction with Lavenders Road in a generally westerly direction.

Winterfield Lane, East Malling: That length of Winterfield Lane which extends its entire length from its junction with A20 London Road to its junction with Lucks Hill in a south-westerly direction.

Full details are contained in the draft Order which together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the proposals and a statement of reasons for proposing to make the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at Sessions House, Maidstone ME14 1XQ,

between 8.30am and 5.00pm and at Tonbridge & Malling Borough Council Offices, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, during normal opening times.

For further information, please contact Kent County Council Highways and Transportation, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent County Council

HIGHWAYS

If you wish to support or object to the new proposed Order should send the grounds in writing to: The Traffic Schemes and Member Highway Fund Manager, Kent County Council Highways, Javelin Way, Ashford, TN24 8AD or by email to TRO@kent.gov.uk by noon on Monday 29th October 2012.

HIGHWAYS - SEVENOAKS, TONBRIDGE & MALLING AND TUNBRIDGE WELLS

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (VARIOUS ROADS, TONBRIDGE & MALLING, TUNBRIDGE WELLS AND SEVENOAKS) (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION (SPECIAL EVENTS) ACT 1994 SECTION 16A

Kent County Council gives Notice that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst an event is being held on the highway. Kent County Council has made an Order; the effect will be to temporarily prohibit the use of Vehicles travelling on the roads detailed below.

The Order will become effective on Sunday 23rd September 2012. The event is planned to last 1 day between 09:00hrs and 14:30hrs. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

Nothing in the Order will apply to:

- Any Vehicle being used for Ambulance purposes, Coastguard/RNLI, Fire Brigade or Police services.
- Anything done by a Statutory Undertaker vehicle in connection with an emergency repair.
- Anything done with the permission or at the direction of a KCC traffic Marshall, Event Organisers or a Police Constable in Uniform.

Schedule

Road Name:	Brook Street, Tonbridge
Extent:	From Hayesbrook School to Upper Haysden Lane
Road Name:	Molescroft Way, Tonbridge
Extent:	Entire Length
Road Name:	Upper Haysden Lane, Tonbridge & Bidborough, Tunbridge Wells
Extent:	Entire length
Road Name:	Haysden Lane, Bidborough, Tunbridge Wells
Extent:	From Brook Street to Ensfield Road
Road Name:	Ensfield Road, Bidborough, Tunbridge Wells & Leigh, Sevenoaks
Extent:	Entire length
Road Name:	Lower Green, Leigh, Sevenoaks
Extent:	Entire length
Road Name:	B2027 High Street, Leigh, Sevenoaks
Extent:	Entire length
Road Name:	B2027 Hildenborough Road, Leigh, Sevenoaks
Extent:	Entire length
Road Name:	Rings Hill, Hildenborough, Tonbridge
Extent:	Stocks Green Road to Lower Street
Road Name:	Lower Street, Hildenborough, Tonbridge
Extent:	Entire length
Road Name:	Philpots Lane, Leigh, Sevenoaks
Extent:	Entire length
Road Name:	Coppings Road, Leigh, Sevenoaks
Extent:	Entire length
Road Name:	Compasses Hill, Leigh, Sevenoaks
Extent:	Entire length
Road Name:	B2027 Tonbridge Road, Leigh, Sevenoaks
Extent:	Entire length
Road Name:	B2027 Penshurst Road, Sevenoaks
Extent:	Entire length
Road Name:	Lower Haysden Lane, Bidborough, Tunbridge Wells & Tonbridge
Extent:	Entire length

The purpose of the closures is to facilitate The Tonbridge Half Marathon.

COPT HALL ROAD, IGHTHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because it is necessary to upgrade the water supply, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Copt Hall Road, Ightham, on or after 1 October 2012 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

The whole length of the road will be closed.

The alternative route is via A25 Sevenoaks Road, Common Road.

John Burr
Director Kent Highways
Invicta House
County Hall,
Maidstone
Kent ME14 1XQ **Dated 16th September 2012**

For further information, please contact Kent County Council Highways and Transportation, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent County Council

PLANNING

Planning applications

CANTERBURY CITY COUNCIL

Notice under Article 8 of the Town & Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995
Notice under Section 67 and/or Section 73 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990
Notice under Regulation 5 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Regulations 1990
Notice under Regulation 5A of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) (Amendment) (England) Regulations 2004

The following applications have been submitted for consideration by the council:

CA//12/00866/LB: 35 St Peters Street, Canterbury, CT1 2BG Internal and external alterations. **Applicant: Mr Mills** Reason: Work to a listed building.
CA//12/01279/VAR: 110 Nelson Road, Whitstable, CT5 1DZ Retention of development without compliance with part of condition 01 of planning permission CA/11/01722/FUL relating to use of the rear garden between the hours of 9am and 5pm with the provision of a maximum of 18 covers; associated provision of 2.75 metre high fencing and a pergola. **Applicant: J A Ellis (Minster) Ltd** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//12/01405/FUL: Land rear of Homeside Farmhouse, The Street, Bossingham, Upper Hardres, CT4 6DX Erection of detached dwelling and garage. **Applicant: Mr and Mrs A Hewitt** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//12/01497/FUL: Land between former post/sorting office and Cavendish Court, Cavendish Road, Herne Bay, CT6 5BD Erection of building comprising six supported housing units and associated parking. **Applicant: Monson Homes Limited** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//12/01504/CAC: Land between former post/sorting office and Cavendish Court, Cavendish Road, Herne Bay, CT6 5BD Demolition of building. **Applicant: Monson Homes Limited** Reason: Demolition of unlisted building in conservation area.
CA//12/01505/FUL: 187 Island Wall, Whitstable, CT5 1EE Two and single-storey extensions to side, including a double garage, single-storey extensions to front and rear, alterations and extensions to the roof to provide second-floor accommodation and other associated alterations. **Applicant: Mr King and Mr Doig** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//12/01508/FUL: The Cloisters, 53-57 King Street, Canterbury, CT1 2XS Installation of replacement windows. **Applicant: The Cloisters Canterbury Residents' Association Ltd** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//12/01528/FUL: 3 Willow Way, Chestfield, CT5 3JJ Extension to existing conservatory. **Applicant: Mr P Young** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//12/01532/FUL: 21-23 Whitstable Road, Canterbury, CT2 8DG Change of use from guest house (Use Class C1) to dwelling (Use Class C3). **Applicant: Mr C Thompson** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//12/01534/FUL: Canterbury Fire Station, Upper Bridge Street, Canterbury, CT1 2NH Installation of freestanding diesel fuel tank **Applicant: Kent Fire & Rescue Service** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//12/01541/FUL: 129 Whitstable Road, Canterbury, CT2 8EQ Two-storey rear extension to dwelling with accommodation within roofspace; associated alterations to the roof of the existing dwelling and the provision of a first-floor window in the south-eastern flank elevation. **Applicant: Mr J Robertson and Mrs D Clark** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//12/01544/FUL: 78 Canterbury Road, Whitstable, CT5 4HE Erection of front boundary wall with railings. **Applicant: Mr P Southwood** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//12/01545/ADV: 29-30 Watling Street, Canterbury, CT1 2UD Installation of three non-illuminated fascia signs above first floor windows and additional hanging sign. **Applicant: Kumon Education** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//12/01547/FUL: Grindley Lodge, Higham Lane, Bridge, CT4 5AY Extension to side and rear of garage to provide enlarged garage, store and conservatory. **Applicant: Mr and Mrs Hendy** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//12/01552/LB: Molehill Cottage, Molehill Road, Chestfield, CT5 3PD Installation of additional window in west elevation of single-storey extension and construction of internal partition wall. **Applicant: Mr and Mrs Hadley** Reason: Work to a listed building.
CA//12/01557/FUL: 28 Conyngham Lane, Bridge, Canterbury, CT4 5JX Replacement single-storey side extension and erection of front porch. **Applicant: Mr and Mrs A Sheers** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//12/01561/FUL: Kent County Cricket Ground, Old Dover Road, Canterbury, CT1 3NZ Demolition of existing headquarters building and replaced with six residential apartments with undercroft parking **Applicant: Kent County Cricket Club** Reason: Conservation area.
CA//12/01566/CAC: Kent County Cricket Ground, Old Dover Road, Canterbury, CT1 3NZ Demolition of existing headquarters building and replaced with six residential apartments with undercroft parking **Applicant: Kent County Cricket Club** Reason: Demolition of unlisted building in conservation area.

Any representations should be sent in writing to the Head of Planning and Regeneration, Canterbury City Council, Military Road, Canterbury CT1 1YW or e-mailed to **development.management@canterbury.gov.uk** to arrive on or before **Monday 8 October 2012.**

The weekly list of applications can be viewed on our website at: **www.canterbury.gov.uk/dc**

Ian Brown, Head of Planning and Regeneration
Friday 14 September 2012

Public Notice

PUBLIC EXHIBITION

Land at Blackthorn Road, Hersden
Come and see the new proposals for a new care home in Hersden.
Tuesday 25th September
3pm - 8pm
Hersden Community Centre, The Avenue, Hersden

Folkestone

THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (ENGLAND) ORDER 2010

The following applications have been submitted for consideration by the Council:

Y12/0794/SH - 13 Stade Street Hythe Kent CT21 6DA - Felling of a Cherry and a Laburnum tree situated within a conservation area followed by the planting of two replacements.

Y12/0479/SH#* - Walnut Tree Cottage Rye Road Brookland Romney Marsh Kent - Erection of a detached dwelling (resubmission of application Y08/0231/SH).

Y12/0781/SH - Land Rear 4 Risborough Way Folkestone Kent - Erection of a detached two storey dwelling with first floor set within roof space and dormer windows to west facing roof slope.

Any representations should be made in writing to the Head of Planning, Shepway District Council, Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent, CT20 2QY or emailed to planning@shepway.gov.uk. Comments should be made in writing within 21 days from the date of publication. It should be noted that any representations received will be made available for public inspection.

Some applications can be viewed at other locations in addition to the Civic Centre, Folkestone. The applications are marked as follows:

- The One Stop Shop, Magpies, Church Approach, New Romney

\+ - Hythe Town Council Offices, Stade Street, Hythe

Applications can be viewed and comments made online at http://searchplanapps.shepway.gov.uk/online-applications/.

The applications marked (*) do not accord with the provisions of the development plan in force in the area in which the land to which the application relates is situated.

C Lewis, Head of Planning

Shepway District Council

Swale BOROUGH COUNCIL

THE SWALE BOROUGH COUNCIL (ST PAULS DOCKYARD CHURCH) COMPULSORY PURCHASE OF LAND KNOWN AS ST PAULS DOCKYARD CHURCH NAVAL TERRACE SHEERNESS KENT

Notice is hereby given that Swale Borough Council has made the Swale Borough Council (St Pauls Dockyard Church) Compulsory Purchase Order 2012 under section 47 of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservaton Areas) Act 1990. It is about to submit this order to the Secretary of State for Culture, Olympics, Media and Sport for confirmation and if confirmed, the order will authorise Swale Borough Council to purchase compulsorily the land described below for the purpose of preserving the listed building.

A copy fo the order and of the accompanying map may be seen at all reasonable hours at Swale Borough Council Planning Reception, Floor 2 Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 3HT.

Any objection to the order must be made in wirting to Secretary of State for Culture, Olympics, Media and Sport FAO Andy Doidge, Heritage Protection Team, Department for Culture, Media and Sport, 2-4 Cockspur Street, London, SW1Y 5DH before 10th October 2012 and should sae the title of the order, the grounds of objection and the objector's address and interests in the land.

DESCRIPTION OF LAND

One parcel of land of 0.8 hectares comprising the property known as St Pauls Dockyard Church Naval Terrace Sheerness Kent including the hard standing, the green and the avenue of trees

Chief Executive - Abdool Kara

Dated 4th September 2012





PLANNING

Town and Country Planning Acts

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications

12/02415/HOUSE **Hartleys Cranbrook Road, Benenden**
-Alterations and extensions to existing house (LB)

12/02399/FUL **Chilworth High Street, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst**
-Single storey four bedroom dwelling (CA)(LB)

12/02499/HOUSE **The Oast House Wilsley Pound, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst**
-Two storey rear extension with first floor windows to rear elevation. Entrance canopy to existing front door and modification of window opening to door opening with 'juliet balcony' at first floor level on western facing (rear) side of roundel (LB)

12/02504/LBC **The Oast House Wilsley Pound, Cranbrook And Sissinghurst**
-Listed Building Consent: Two storey rear extension with first floor windows to rear elevation. Entrance canopy to existing front door and modification of window opening to door opening with 'juliet balcony' at first floor level on western facing (rear) side of roundel (LB)

12/02316/FUL **Gregory Rowcliffe & Milners Solicitors 10 St Johns Road, Culverden**
-Change of use from offices and workshop to 2 x one bed flats and 3 x 2 bed flats (CA)

12/00066/HOUSE **Woodpeckers Castlemaine Oast, Horsmonden**
-Installation of wood burning stove and associated flue (LB)

12/00068/LBC **Woodpeckers Castlemaine Oast, Horsmonden**
-Listed Building Consent -Installation of wood burning stove and associated flue (LB)

12/02140/FUL **Barclays Bank Plc 2 The Pantiles, Pantiles & St Marks**
-Replace 14 glazed panels in windows on front elevation, replace 10 glazed panels in windows on side elevation and replace 19 glazed panels in windows on rear elevation. ATM light and camera. External pavement raise to achieve level access (LB) (CA)

12/02298/CAC **81 Frant Road Royal Tunbridge Wells, Pantiles & St Marks**
-Conservation area -removal of chimney stack on the north face of the house (CA)

12/02481/FUL **GetTravelling 32 The Pantiles, Pantiles & St Marks**
-Ground floor and basement: Change of use from A1 to A3 for a cake shop and cafe (TW/12/01200 refers) -Variation of Condition (4) -To allow opening of the premises between 10.00 to 23.00 hours on Fridays and Saturdays, and between 10.00 and 22.00 hours on Sundays and Bank Holidays; other opening hours to remain the same (LB) (CA)

12/02485/LBC **Barclays Bank Plc 2 The Pantiles, Pantiles & St Marks**
-Listed building consent -new external singage, external pavement raise and minor internal alterations. Redecoration with new lighting/electrics/conduit. New automation to existing inner lobby timber doors, dusted crystal vinyl applied to fanlight over inner lobby doors. Decorations to façade, new external camera, new ATM light and replacement ATM shroud (LB)

12/02459/FUL **8 Calverley Road Royal Tunbridge Wells, Park**
-Installation of new glazed shop front and automatic entrance doors; Installation of 2 No. external ATMs c/w internally illuminated surrounds and CCTV camera; Installation of 4 No. new AC condensers and replacement ductwork on flat roof (CA) (MAJOR)

12/02490/FUL **Garages Between 8 -14 Park Street, Park**
-Demolition of existing garages and construction of a single detached dwelling (CA)

12/02507/HOUSE **1 Oakfield Court Road, Royal Tunbridge Wells, Park**
-Rear extension with basement under, new window in north east side wall, new door in south west side wall (CA)

12/02484/HOUSE **16 Hastings Road Pembury, Pembury**
-Dormer to rear roof slope and single-storey rear extension (CA)

12/02496/FUL **13 High Street Pembury, Pembury**
-Change of use from A1 (Retail) to A2 (Financial and Professional Services). Rear single storey extension and replacement front extension and external alterations (CA)

12/02480/FULMJ **Royal Mail, Tunbridge Wells Delivery Office, Sherwood**
-Change of use from Post Office sorting depot, demolition of an existing storage warehouse and construction of Audi motor vehicle dealership, providing sales, service/repair, MOT facilities, valet and vehicle preparation and external display (MAJOR)

(DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of Way (CA) Affecting a Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.

You may view these applications on our website (www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk), at the The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.

You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.

Jim Kehoe
Head of Planning Services
Town Hall, Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS

Dated: 15 September 2012

THE MAIDSTONE BOROUGH COUNCIL
Town and Country Planning Act
Notice of Applications

MA/12/1329/S - THE FORGE, HIGH STREET, YALDING, KENT, ME18 6HX - Application for listed building consent to replace a back door. **Reason: 3**

MA/12/1405/N - 6, RUMWOOD COURT, SUTTON ROAD, LANGLEY, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 3NN - Retrospective listed building consent for the erection of satellite dish. **Reason: 3**

MA/12/1484/S - WARMLAKE BUSINESS ESTATE, MAIDSTONE ROAD, SUTTON VALENCE, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 3LQ - Subdivision of Unit 11 into two units with new access door. **Reason: 1**

MA/12/1542/N - 97A, HIGH STREET, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 1SA - Change of use of office accommodation to residential to provide 2 two bedroom flats. **Reason: 1 2**

MA/12/1545/N - PARK BARN FARM HOUSE, PARK BARN ROAD, BROOMFIELD, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 1PN - Construction of an orangery. **Reason: 1**

MA/12/1546/N - PARK BARN FARM HOUSE, PARK BARN ROAD, BROOMFIELD, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 1PN - Application for Listed Building Consent for construction of an orangery. **Reason: 3**

MA/12/1565/N - IPPLEPEN, WEAVERING STREET, WEAVERING, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME14 5JN - Single storey extension. **Reason: 1**

MA/12/1586/N - THE GRANARY, SMITHS FARM, HOLLINGBOURNE HILL, HOLLINGBOURNE, MAIDSTONE, KENT, ME17 1QJ - Amendments to previously approved development under MA/11/1962 (erection of 2(no) sheds, re-positioning of drive and parking area, removal of flue and installation of 1(no) small flue, alterations to fenestration including changing 2(no) doors to windows, 1(no) window to door, change of style to 1(no) door and insertion of roof light, and installation of underground gas tank) being alterations to hard landscaping, laying of tarmac to entrance, creation of shingle drive, insertion of wall flue for kitchen extractor, removing roof flue for kitchen extractor, exterior lighting and insertion of flue for wood burner. **Reason: 1**

MA/12/1607/S - KELSHAM FARM, FOUR OAKS ROAD, HEADCORN, ASHFORD, KENT, TN27 9NY - Erection of an orangey extension to rear of existing dwelling (Resubmission of MA/12/0945). **Reason: 1**

Reasons for advertisement key:
1 -Applications affects the setting of a Listed Building.
2 -Application affects the setting of a Conservation Area.
3 -Application is for Listed Building Consent.

Copies of applications listed may be seen at Maidstone Gateway, Maidstone during office hours (Monday to Wednesday 8.30am to 5.30pm, Thursday 8.30am to 7pm, Friday 8.30am to 5.30pm and Saturday 9am to 1pm). Any representations should be made in writing to me by no later than **30th September 2012**, quoting the application number.

Rob Jarman Head of Development Management, Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6JQ. **Dated:** 16th September 2012

Swale BOROUGH COUNCIL

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990

PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990

Swale Borough Council as Local Planning Authority has received the following applications which are being advertised to ascertain the views of persons living near the sites and other interested parties. The proposed developments relate to one or more of the following:

1. The site of the application is within/affecting a designated Conservation Area (Section 73) of the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.
2. The proposed development may affect the Listed Building or it's setting.
3. The application is for a Major Development.
4. The application would affect a right of way to which Part III of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) applies.
6. This application may be of wider public interest.

REPRESENTATIONS IN RESPECT OF THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS MUST BE MADE BY 01 OCTOBER 2012

SW/12/0960:
Decommission existing below ground Diesel tank (capacity: 9,000 litres) foam-fill redundant tank. Installation of 10,000 litre cylindrical 110% self-bunded 'above ground' Diesel tank - Faversham Fire Station, Ashford Road, FAVERSHAM; **REASONS 1 & 2**

SW/12/1060:
Variation of Condition (1) of planning permission SW/08/0863 to permit a further three years for siting of Mobile Home to establish Poultry/Agriculture business - Badgers Croft, Bull Lane, NEWINGTON; **REASON 3**

SW/12/1072:
Listed Building Consent to install satellite dish - Hearts Delight House, Hearts Delight, BORDEN; **REASONS 1 & 2**

SW/12/1079:
Single and double side extensions and alteration to existing dormer room - Rose Cottage, Winterbourne, DUNKIRK; **REASON 4**

SW/12/1093:
Listed Building Consent to undertake remedial works to existing listed building structure by making watertight and structurally stable. All to address immediate Health & Safety issues - H M Prison, Standford Hill, Church Road, EASTCHURCH; **REASON 2**

SW/12/1101:
Change of use of car park area to open storage and repair of boats and jet skis - Land opposite Merlins, Leysdown Road, LEYSDOWN; REASON 6

SW/12/1102:
Retrospective application for adding traditional 6" Kentish wooden weather board to exterior of non-listed property, weather board painted in exterior matt white - Park House, The Street, BREDGAR; **REASON 1**

Particulars of the proposal(s) can be obtained from Planning Services, Swale Borough Council, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, where copies of the applications and all documents submitted with them may be inspected during office hours; any representations should be made in writing to this address.

James Freeman
Head of Planning

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (ENGLAND) ORDER 2010

NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 13

KCC/SE/0321/2012 - Proposed development at Dunbrik Waste Transfer Station, Main Road, Sundridge, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN14 6EP

SITA UK Ltd is applying to Kent County Council for planning permission for a Section 73 application to vary condition 13 (operating hours), condition 3 (layout and working of the site) and condition 4 (site layout) of planning permission SE/90/1302 to amend the operating hours of Dunbrik Transfer Station and install a hardcore disposal bin in the external yard area of the transfer station site.

You may view this application at Sevenoaks District Council, Council Offices, Argyle Road, Sevenoaks, Kent, TN13 1HG.

Alternatively, details of all applications can be viewed on Kent County Council's website at www.kent.gov.uk/viewapplications or at our offices in Maidstone at the address below during all reasonable office hours.

We accept comments online via our website, by email to planning.applications@kent.gov.uk or in writing to Planning Applications Group, Kent County Council, First Floor, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX within 21 days from the date of this notice. Please quote the application reference number and note that comments may be drawn to the attention of Council Members, the applicant and other interested persons and may include publishing on the District Council website.

Sharon Thompson
Head of Planning
Applications Group
Kent County Council
Dated: 16 September 2012

THE DISTRICT OF SHEPWAY

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (THE DISTRICT OF SHEPWAY, VARIOUS ROADS) (FOLKESTONE TOWN CENTRE AND THE BAYLE PARKING ZONE) ORDER 2012

Notice is hereby given that KENT COUNTY COUNCIL has made the above Order under Sections 1, 2, 32, 44, 45 and 124 of and Part IV of Schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The Order shall come into effect on the 17th September 2012 and implement new parking restrictions in the following streets:

Roads in Folkestone

Bouverie Place; Bouverie Road West; Bouverie Square; Cheriton Place; Christ Church Road; Clifton Gardens; Grace Hill; Langhorne Gardens; Longford Terrace; Longford Way; Manor Road; Pound Way; Sandgate Road; Shakespeare Terrace; Shellons Street; The Bayle; The Leas; The Parade; West Cliff Gardens; West Terrace;

A copy of the Order, a copy of any Orders which may be affected by it, and a statement of the council's reasons for proposing the Order can be inspected at the Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, CT20 2QY, during normal office hours.

If you have any questions concerning the Order or require further information please contact Shepway District Council (Transportation Department), Council Offices, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, CT20 2QY (01303 853240 during normal office hours).

This notice is published by Shepway District Council on behalf of Kent Highway Services, County Hall, Maidstone, ME14 1XX. Kent Highway Services is part of Kent County Council.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (THE DISTRICT OF SHEPWAY, VARIOUS ROADS) (FOLKESTONE WEST CONTROLLED PARKING ZONE) (NO 2) ORDER 2012

Notice is hereby given that KENT COUNTY COUNCIL has made the above Order under Sections 1, 2, 32, 44, 45 and 124 of and Part IV of Schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act: The Order will come into force on Monday 17th September 2012 and will consolidate all parking restrictions within the Folkestone West Controlled Parking Zone.

A copy of the Order, a copy of any Orders which may be affected by it, and a statement of the council's reasons for proposing the Order can be inspected at the Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, CT20 2QY, during normal office hours.

If you have any questions concerning the Order or require further information please contact Shepway District Council (Transportation Department), Council Offices, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, CT20 2QY (01303 853240 during normal office hours).

This notice is published by Shepway District Council on behalf of Kent Highway Services, County Hall, Maidstone, ME14 1XX. Kent Highway Services is part of Kent County Council.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (THE DISTRICT OF SHEPWAY, VARIOUS ROADS) (FOLKESTONE SEA FRONT AND THE STADE PARKING ZONE) ORDER 2012

Notice is hereby given that KENT COUNTY COUNCIL has made the above Order under Sections 1, 2, 32, 44, 45 and 124 of and Part IV of Schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, and of all other enabling powers, and after consultation with the chief officer of police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act:

The Order shall come into effect on Monday 17th September 2012 and implement new parking restrictions in the following streets:

ROADS IN FOLKESTONE

Marine Crescent; Marine Parade; Marine Terrace; Lower Sandgate Road; Harbour Approach Road; Tontine Street; Fish Market; East Street; The Stade; Mill Bay.

The Order will also consolidate the existing restrictions in the following streets:

ROADS IN FOLKESTONE

Harbour Street; Beach Street; Radnor Street

A copy of the Order, a copy of any Orders which may be affected by it, and a statement of the council's reasons for proposing the Order can be inspected at the Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, CT20 2QY, during normal office hours.

If you have any questions concerning the Order or require further information please contact Shepway District Council (Transportation Department), Council Offices, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, CT20 2QY (01303 853240 during normal office hours).

This notice is published by Shepway District Council on behalf of Kent Highway Services, County Hall, Maidstone, ME14 1XX.
Kent Highway Services is part of Kent County Council.

To place your notice here, call the Kent Public Notice team on

01303 817044

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY & VILLAGE GREENS

PROW - IN THE BOROUGH OF ASHFORD

IN THE BOROUGH OF ASHFORD

NOTICE OF MODIFICATION ORDER

WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981

DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT FOR THE COUNTY OF KENT MAP SHEET 140 (TQ94SW)

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (PUBLIC FOOTPATH AW149 AT PLUCKLEY)

DEFINITIVE MAP MODIFICATION ORDER 2012

The above Order was made on 12 June 2012 under section 53 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. If confirmed, it will modify the Definitive Map and Statement for the area by deleting that length of Public Footpath AW149 which commences at NGR TQ 9219 4491 (Point A) and runs in a northerly direction for 95 metres passing to the west of the garden boundary to the property known as Arden to NGR TQ 9218 4500 (Point B) and adding that length of Public Footpath AW149 which commences at NGR TQ 9219 4491 (Point A) and continues upon land owner by Arden in a northerly direction for 94 metres to NGR TQ 9219 4500 (Point C). The path then joins with AW149 on map sheet 103 (TQ94NW).

All distances are approximate, all directions are general.

A copy of the Order and Map may be seen free of charge during normal office hours at the offices of Ashford Borough Council, Ashford Gateway Plus, Church Road, Ashford, Kent, TN13 1AS or at the Kent County Council, Countryside Access Service, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX. Copies of the Order and Map may also be purchased there.

Any representation about or objection to the Order must be sent or delivered in writing to Sonia Coventry at the Kent County Council (address as below) no later than 29 October 2012. Please state the grounds on which they are made.

Please note that objections/representations cannot be treated as confidential and may come into the public domain. Copies of any objections or representations received may be disclosed to interested parties, including the Planning Inspectorate where the case is referred to it for determination.

If no such representations or objections are duly made to the Order (or to any part of it), or if any so made are withdrawn, the Kent County Council, instead of submitting the Order to the Secretary of State (or part of it if the Authority has by Notice to the Secretary of State so elected under paragraph 5 of schedule 15 to the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981) may itself confirm the Order (or that part of the Order). If the Order is sent to the Secretary of State for the Environment (in whole or in part), any representations or objections which have been duly made and not been withdrawn will be sent with it.

IN THE BOROUGH OF ASHFORD

NOTICE OF PUBLIC PATH ORDER

HIGHWAYS ACT 1980
WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(PUBLIC FOOTPATH AW149 (PART) PLUCKLEY
PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION AND DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT MODIFICATION ORDER 2012

The above named Order made on 28 March 2012 under Section 119 of the Highways Act 1980 will divert the entire width of that length of public footpath numbered AW149 which commences at NGR TQ 9219 4503 (Point A) and runs in a southerly direction for 124 metres to NGR TQ 9219 4490 (Point B) and will add a new length of public footpath numbered AW149, with a width of 2.5 metres, which commences at NGR TQ 9219 4503 (Point A) and runs in a south westerly direction for 7 metres to NGR TQ 9218 4502 (Point C) before turning in a southerly direction for 122 metres to NGR TQ 9219 4490 (Point B). As shown on the Order Plan.

All directions general, all distances approximate.

A copy of the Order and the Map have been placed and may be seen free of charge at the Offices of Ashford Borough Council, Ashford Gateway Plus, Church Road, Ashford, Kent, TN13 1AS or at the Kent County Council, Countryside Access Service, Invicta House, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX, during office hours. Copies of the Order and Map may be purchased there.

Any representation about or objection to the Order may be sent in writing to Sonia Coventry at the Kent County Council (address as below). (Tel: 01622 220512) (email: sonia.coventry@kent.gov.uk) not later than 29 October 2012. Please state the grounds on which they are made.

Please note that objections/representations cannot be treated as confidential and may come into the public domain. Copies of any objections or representations received may be disclosed to interested parties, including the Planning Inspectorate where the case is referred to it for determination.

If no such representations or objections are duly made, or if any so made are withdrawn, the Kent County Council may confirm the Order as an unopposed Order. If the Order is sent to the Secretary of State for the Environment for confirmation any representations and objections which have not been withdrawn will be sent with the Order.

Countryside Access Service
Kent County Council
Invicta House
County Hall
Maidstone
Kent ME14 1XX

Dated: 16 September 2012

PROW - IN THE BOROUGH OF MAIDSTONE

NOTICE OF THE INTENTION TO MAKE AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATH KB34

IN THE PARISH OF MAIDSTONE

PUBLIC FOOTPATH KB34
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984, SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council intends to temporarily close Public Footpath KB34, between Hermitage Lane and TQ 731 558 a distance of approx 75 metres from the 1st October 2012.

The path will be closed for a maximum of six months, although it is expected that it will reopen before 8th October 2012.

The path is to be closed because works are planned on or near it and there is a likelihood of danger to users.

The alternative route is adjacent to current path and will be signed for the duration of the closure.

For detailed enquiries please contact: John Pelham

Or for further details on temporary closures on the rights of way network please see:

http://www.kent.gov.uk/environment_and_planning/countryside_access/traffic_regulation_orders.aspx

PROW - IN THE BOROUGH OF TONBRIDGE & MALLING

NOTICE OF THE INTENTION TO MAKE AN ORDER TO TEMPORARILY CLOSE PUBLIC FOOTPATH MR405

IN THE PARISH OF IGHTHAM

PUBLIC FOOTPATH MR405
(PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2012

ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984, SECTION 14(1), AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council intends to temporarily close Public Footpath MR405, between Fen Pond Road and Borough Green Road from the 1st October 2012.

The path will be closed for a maximum of six months, although it is expected that it will reopen before 14th October 2012.

The path is to be closed to install cables and there is a likelihood of dangers to users.

There is no alternative route.

For detailed enquiries please contact: Michele Snoding

Or for further details on temporary closures on the rights of way network please see:

http://www.kent.gov.uk/environment_and_planning/countryside_access/traffic_regulation_orders.aspx

PROW - IN THE BOROUGH OF TUNBRIDGE WELLS

NOTICE OF COMING INTO FORCE OF A PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION ORDER

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ACT 1990 SECTION 257

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

(PUBLIC FOOTPATH WC256 (PART) FRITTENDEN)

PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION AND DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT MODIFICATION ORDER 2011

On the 21 August 2012 the Kent County Council certified that the terms of Article 2 of the Order requiring works to be carried out had been complied with, thereby enabling the Order to Come into Force. Copies of the Order may be seen free of charge at the Tunbridge Wells Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 2AB or the Kent County Council, Countryside Access Service at Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone ME14 1XX during office hours. Copies of the Order and Map may be purchased there.

For further information please contact:-
Laura Wilkins - 01622 221517

Countryside Access Service
Kent County Council
Invicta House
County Hall
Maidstone
Kent
ME14 1XX **Dated: 16th September 2012**

This document is available in alternative formats and can be explained in a range of languages.

For further information, please contact Kent Countryside Access Service, on 0845 345 0210 (Mon-Fri 8am-8pm) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/countrysideaccess

Kent County Council

PREMISES/ GOODS LICENCES

Notice is hereby given that Louise Jones of Club Chemistry, 15 Station Road East, Canterbury has applied to Canterbury City Council for the GRANT of a Premises Licence to operate the following Regulated Activities between 10:00hrs and 02:30hrs Mondays to Wednesdays, between 10:00hrs and 04:00hrs Thursdays to Saturdays and between 12:00hrs and 00:30hrs on Sundays: plays, films, indoor sporting events, boxing or wrestling entertainment, live and recorded music, performances of dance, anything of a similar description, entertainment facilities for making music, dancing and anything of a similar description, sale of alcohol. Opening hours of the premises from 10:00hrs to 03:00hrs Mondays to Wednesdays, 10:00hrs to 04:30hrs Thursdays to Saturdays and 12:00hrs to 01:00hrs Sundays. Late night refreshment from 23:00hrs to the terminal hour each day. On the Sunday before a Bank holiday Monday, the same hours for all Regulated Activities as a Saturday. On New Year's Eve: operate all Regulated Activities from the end of permitted hours to the start of permitted hours on the following day, for the premises Club Chemistry, 15 Station Road East, Canterbury. A register of licensing applications can be inspected at www.canterbury.gov.uk/licensing or at Council Offices, Military Road, Canterbury, Kent CT1 1YW tel. 01227 862000 by appointment with the Licensing Team between 10am and 4pm Monday to Friday. Any person wishing to submit representations to my application must give notice in writing to the address shown above, giving in detail the grounds of objection by 04/10/2012. The Council will not entertain representations where the writer requests that his identity remains anonymous. Copies of all representations will be included in the papers presented to the Licensing Sub Committee and will therefore pass into the public domain. Representations must relate to one or more of the four Licensing Objectives: the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety, the prevention of public nuisance and the protection of children from harm.

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Notice of an Application for the Grant of a Premises Licence (Licensing Act 2003)

Notice is hereby given that

a) Ashford Investor (General Partner) Limited has applied to Ashford Borough Council for the GRANT of PREMISES LICENCE for b) (a) plays, (b) films, (e) live music, (f) recorded music, (g) performances of dance, (h) anything of a similar description to that falling within (e), (f) or (g) for the premises c) Ashford Designer Outlet situated at d) Kimberley Way, Ashford, TN24 0SD

A register of licensing applications can be viewed at the Licensing Section, Ashford Borough Council, Civic Centre, Tannery Lane, Ashford, Kent, TN23 1PL 01233 330721 by appointment

Any person wishing to submit representations to this application must give notice in writing to the address shown above giving in detail the grounds of objection by: 07/01/2012 Dated this 7th day of September 2012

The Council will not entertain representations where the writer requests that his identity remains anonymous. Copies of all representations will be included in the papers presented to the Licensing Panel and will therefore pass into the public domain. Representations must relate to one or more of the four Licensing Objectives: THE PREVENTION OF CRIME AND DISORDER, PUBLIC SAFETY, THE PREVENTION OF PUBLIC NUISANCE AND THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN FROM HARM.

It is an offence, liable on conviction to a fine up to level 5 on the standard scale (£5,000), under Section 158 of the Licensing Act 2003 to make a false statement in or in connection with this application

To advertise in this section
01303 817056

PUBLIC NOTICE

I, MUKID CHOUDHURY, am applying for a new Premises Licence at Ace of Spice,13-15 Watling Street, Chatham, ME5 7EP. My application is made to MedwayCouncil, Gun Wharf, Dock Road, Chatham, ME4 4TR. I am applying for the following licensable activities:

Sale of Alcohol - (10.00 a.m. - midnight), Regulated Entertainment (10.00 a.m. - Midnight) and Late Night Refreshment (11.00 p.m. - midnight).

Should you wish to make representations to the Council it must be in writing and / or you can view my application by contacting the Council on 01634 337107 or 337108 by 4 October 2012.

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. A person guilty of an offence under this section is liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding £5,000.

MARRIAGE LICENCES

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL

THE MARRIAGE ACT 1949 AND CIVIL PARTNERSHIP ACT 2004

APPROVED PREMISES FOR CIVIL MARRIAGES & CIVIL PARTNERSHIPS

An application has been made to Kent County Council to grant a renewal of an approval for the following premises to act as a venue for the solemnisation of civil marriages and civil partnerships:-

Name of Premises: **The Guildhall, Cattle Market, Sandwich**

Applicant: **Melanie Kingshott**

The application and plan of the premises may be inspected at the address below during normal office hours. Any person may give notice in writing of an objection to the renewal of the grant of approval, together with the reasons, within 21 days from the date of this newspaper. Objections should be sent to the address below.

Cath Anley
Head of Libraries, Registration and Archives
Kent History and Library Centre
James Whatman Way
Maidstone, ME14 1LQ





The favourite poet of punk has a royal appointment

SEE PAGE 47



ANIMAL ANTICS

Events celebrate all elephants great and small

SEE PAGE 48

Kent Weekend

Wall of fame

We track down Stewy, the anonymous artist spraying our way

SEE PAGE 43

PLUS: Seaside town cooks up a treat with annual food festival - **food and drink p45** Challenger bank's bid to get property sales going - **property p51** Audi's A3 has undergone an evolution - **driving p55**







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THE INTERVIEW

Stewy

Spraying for change

Thanks to the provocative and thought-provoking graffiti of Banksy, street art is now seen as a recognised art form, but for many it is still seen as just graffiti. **Joe Bill** speaks exclusively to Stewy, a street artist whose work is now displayed boldly on Kentish walls.







THE ART IS ON THE WALL: From left... a dog in Margate; a shopper and his dog admire a rabbit in the same town; and Canterbury's Robert Wyatt image

BANKSY is a name that almost everyone recognises. His visual assault on the world with a string of provocative graffiti has propelled the anonymous artist to stardom.

He has websites, he has fan bases, he has books and he also now has the respect of the often-pompous art world. His pieces are thought-provoking and frequently politically motivated, but it is the mystery surrounding the man that makes his movements so intriguing.

Others would argue that more important than his modern-day iconic status is Banksy's contribution to making graffiti a recognised art form. He has influenced many, including the man known as 'Stewy'.

Anonymous stencil graffiti artist Stewy has already hit Kent at least 18 times from his London base, but we managed to meet the elusive man.

He said: "Due to Banksy's popularity, more and more artists have been inspired to create their own work. For most people, to go out and create art is a great thing. No one is telling them to do it – it takes effort and skill.

"But I feel an irony when large companies and advertisers use graffiti to promote products, while grassroots artists get arrested for creating art, especially when they're trying to convey political injustice.

"The public perception of street art or graffiti is changing and needs to change more.

"However, if it takes advertising to create the image that graffiti is cool and not purely antisocial, perhaps its OK."

Stewy's pieces have created a bit of a buzz in the county as they feature two of Kent's most iconic residents.

In Duke Street, Margate, an almost life-size stencil of world-renowned artist Tracey Emin stands on a flaking wall close to the new Turner Centre, while in Canterbury's Dover Street there is a print of musician Robert Wyatt from Kentish prog-rock group Soft Machine.

It stands proud on a wall close to the former Beehive Club, which was considered the epicentre of the late 60s Canterbury Scene.

Both subjects were even contacted by Stewy to gauge reaction to their graffiti tributes.

"They both loved it. I try to contact the individual once the work is complete. Robert said it was 'hallucinatory' and 'a real honour to see my ghost haunting an old haunt'."

There is also a picture online of Emin posing next to her spray-paint portrait looking rather chuffed.

Stewy has not only targeted Kent as a birthplace of cultural icons – he has also hit Manchester with a picture of writer Quentin Crisp as well as punk poet John Cooper Clarke on the South Bank in London. Another, Sex Pistols manager Malcolm McLaren, is depicted on a wall in Stoke Newington, London.

But who makes it onto Stewy's list and why?

"I generally choose people I like and admire – people who are different. They always appear where they lived, worked or died... I call it psycho geography. It's educational – the people in the context of the environment combine geography, history and art.

"Ultimately, the image commemorates the person 'like ghosts across the street'. It's not about me. The work highlights people or eccentrics who have or had made a difference – changed how we approach art, music or writing... pushing the boundaries in Britain and shaking things up a little.

"A common thread I noticed with the people is they are all very British underdogs, eccentrics, anarchists... obscure. I seem to choose the least expected and least commercial people other street artists would not normally consider."

Stewy works from stencils that he creates at home before hitting the streets to convey his message. Much of his work incorporates British animals appearing close to his human portraits.

For example, in Margate, close to the Emin piece, Stewy has painted a pigeon in Hawley Street, a horse in King's Street and a fox on the Mr Simm's sweet shop as well as pigs, badgers and owls elsewhere.

The artist sprayed his first piece in 2007 and has mastered the art of a quick turnaround – but his work is not without its risks.

"Yes, I once spent 12 hours at Her Majesty's pleasure," he said.

But that is not enough to stop Stewy dreaming up his next piece.

"I quite like the obscurity of my work, so the longevity is more important than any particular piece. The process is very organic.

"I recently choose Quentin Crisp to be placed in Chorlton-cum-Hardy, in Manchester, where he died. Within two weeks a journalist contacted me requesting a print of the stencil for Quentin's former partner, whom he plans to meet in New York. I simply requested he'd ask for a location to spray Quentin somewhere in New York, if I ever get the chance to visit.

"Ultimately, after the effort to create the stencil and the risks in spraying, to be contacted by a relation of the individual of whom I'm attempting to continue the memory gives me a sense of achievement."

And where does this most overground of underground operators see the genre?

"I've worked in schools, and the students I've met have a clear enthusiasm and skill for creating street art. I hope this art form becomes more accepted as a positive within society."

■ To see some of Stewy's work from around Kent and elsewhere, you can visit www.stewystencils.tumblr.com.



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To be included on this page, please email **features@kosmedia.co.uk**

Seaside food festival has recipe for success

By Joe Bill
joe.bill@archant.co.uk

NOW in its fourth year, the Broadstairs Food Festival is ready to wow the people of Kent with its collection of culinary delights.

The festival opens on Tuesday, October 2, with a gala dinner at East Kent College's Bayside Restaurant. With the restaurant's views of the coast, the dinner will be a lovely way to start the festival.

East Kent College students are given the perfect opportunity to showcase their culinary skills by putting on a great dining experience for customers.

As festival sponsor for the fourth year in succession, the college is supported with produce supplied by Broadstairs high-street traders including Hazell's butchers, Crusties Bakery and JC Prentis – so you can't get more local than that.

Tickets for the evening are selling fast, so be sure to book your place; tickets cost £30 and there is a licensed bar. Phone 01843 871102.

The three-day Food Fayre Festival on Victoria Gardens and Promenade offers a long weekend of food and cooking demonstrations, including the best of local and county produce to sample.

There is also the chance for festival-goers to buy the makings of breakfast, lunch, afternoon tea, and if you have any space left, supper too.

And, best of all, entry is free, so you can pop in on each of the three days: on Friday and Saturday, October 5-6, the festival is open from 10am to 6pm and on Sunday, October 7, from 10am-5pm.









New to the 2012 festival is a Teddy Bears' Picnic in the main food court marquee from 10am on the Saturday, with prizes for the oldest, smallest, cuddliest and best-dressed bears.

Last year more than 50,000 people enjoyed the feast of flavours, and the range and quality of the produce promises to be even better this year, with more than 100 stalls lined up for the event. New offerings include freshly-seared scallops, pasta and stir-fries from Globe and Rainbow; cocktails and canapés and loose-leaf teas; loads of hot and cold food served all day; and, of course, the Farmhouse Pop Up Kitchen.

And it doesn't stop there. In partnership with Thorley Taverns, the festival is offering a Live Music Weekend at The Broadstairs Pavilion with much-loved local band Hullabaloo performing on Friday, October 5, followed by X Factor star Ben Mills and his band the following day. Doors open at 7pm and a wristband for the whole weekend is a snip at £5, with proceeds supporting the festival.

It is extraordinary how quickly this event has grown in such a short period and it should be remembered that this is a community-funded event backed by local residents and businesses.

So do feel free to pop your coins in the collecting buckets or to buy a lottery ticket – it all goes to ensure the continuation of this lovely family-friendly event in Broadstairs.

■ **Email jo@broadstairsfoodfestival.org.uk, phone 01843 871102 or visit www.broadstairsfoodfestival.org.uk for tickets.**



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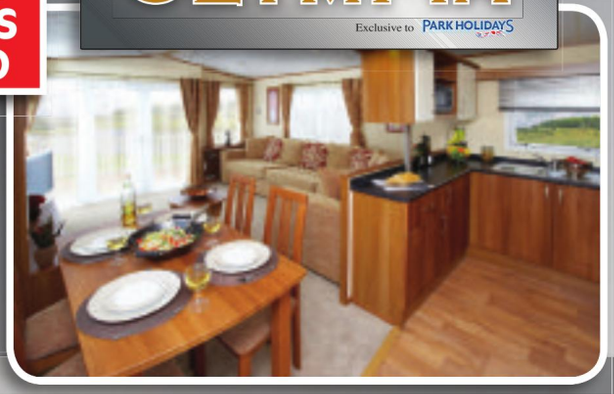
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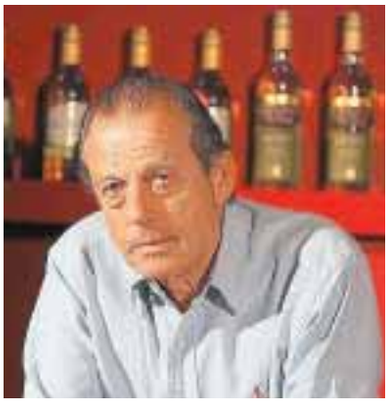
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Legendary soap faces

Rovers return

Woodville Halls, Gravesend
Fri and Sat, September 14-15
Box office 01474 337774
www.woodville.co.uk

SOME of the most recognisable faces from the British small screen are joining together to take part in an all-new theatre production called Soap Opera.

Possibly the most infamous soap baddie of all time, Leslie Grantham, aka Dirty Den from EastEnders, left, stars in the new show alongside Graham Cole, otherwise known as PC Tony Stamp in The Bill.

Michelle Gayle, who played Hattie in EastEnders, had 90s chart success with hit Sweetness and is joined by Lee Otway from Hollyoaks.

The plot is based on a make-believe soap opera that is about to be axed. But somone snaps, blood is spilled, a body is discovered... and everyone has a motive.

The history of Medway

Go discover!

Medway Archives and Local Studies Centre, Strood
01634 332714
www.medway.gov.uk/archives

FROM travellers to military personnel, from the workhouse to the dockyard, the people and places that feature in Medway's history are waiting to be discovered.

With more than 600 visitors a month, the Medway Archives Centre in Strood is a must-visit for those wanting to research their family tree or learn about local history and geography.

Council records, title deeds, workhouse records, burial records and school logbooks are all good starting points for finding ancestors.

Exhibitions include The Defence of Kent Project: The Findings in Medway from now until Saturday, November 3.

From Monday, November 19, to Tuesday, 29 January 2013, there will be the These we have loved: Shops, stores and emporia of Medway on show.



Words and wisdom

John Cooper Clarke

Royal Function Rooms, Star Hill, Rochester
Friday, November 23
www.preservationsocietypresents.com

THE original Punk Poet John Cooper Clarke has announced that he will be taking up the mic at an intimate gig in Medway.

The rocker, best known for his lyrics that captivated the punk movement in the late 70s, will perform at The Royal Function Rooms in Rochester in front of just a few hundred people.

Medway music promoter Preservation Society Presents has made the Star Hill venue into an excellent new destination for music-lovers, having already bagged 90s indie band Dodgy and Ocean Colour Scene singer Steve Cradock to perform there during the run-up to Christmas.

Tickets are priced at £18; over-18s only.

The snake in the brass

Sax maestro

The Ship Theatre, Sevenoaks
Sunday, October 7, at 8pm
01732 740889
www.listeningroom.co.uk

THE Soul Sax Man, Snake Davis, heads to the The Ship Theatre in Sevenoaks next month for an evening of brass sounds and top solos.

Davis is known for his sax work on a number of famous tracks, including Lisa Stansfield's Change, M-People's Search For A Hero and Moving On Up, as well as Take That's monster hit A Million Love Songs.

He has also played and recorded with artists ranging from James Brown and Paul McCartney to The Eurythmics and the late Amy Winehouse.

Make the most of the last days of summer with Snake Davis and his Soul & Funk Band at the Hollybush Lane venue on Sunday, October 7.

Tickets are priced at £15.



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01233 330316
www.revelationstmarys.co.uk
www.seetickets.com

ENGLISH folk-rock band Fairport Convention lead an impressive line-up for the third annual Revelation series of concerts at St Mary's Church in Ashford.

The St Mary's Arts Trust brings a number of performers, including Beth Orton, on Thursday, November 29, who was awarded the Brit Award best female in 2000.

The season includes an evening with cricket broadcasting legend Henry Blofeld on Wednesday, December 5, with his Shaken not Stirred show.

Considered one of England's most influential folk bands, Fairport Convention are first up, on Wednesday, October 31.

The group have already been awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award at the BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards.

Tickets available online.



Is it all over? It might be...

Man vs Woman

Brook Theatre, Chatham
Monday, October 1
Tickets £13.50
tickets.medway.gov.uk

MORE than 10 years since he quit iconic panel show They Think It's All Over, comedian Lee Hurst is heading back out on tour with a show that has had top reviews.

The Man v Woman tour is the London comic's first outing for a couple of years, but the tried and tested format of his live show has already been a smash hit at Hurst's Bethnal Green comedy club FymFyg.

For the Man v Woman gig, Hurst places his show firmly in the hands of his two volunteers – a man and a woman – who will then take on his quiz to earn votes from the crowd.

With loaded questions to answer and tasks to complete, the stand-up quiz is sure to be a hit at the Brook Theatre.



ShangHi showtime

Cirque Du Ciel

The Marlowe Theatre, Canterbury
Monday and Tuesday, September 17-18
01227 787787
www.marlowetheatre.com

CIRQUE Du Ciel sits somewhere between showbusiness and sport.

Back by popular demand, the acclaimed Beijing Acrobatic troupe are touring the UK for a third time with their two-hour production of Chinese culture, world-class acrobatics and spectacular stunts.

With a cast of more than 30 highly-skilled acrobats, 500 decadent costumes, intricate scenery, evocative lighting, modern dance and martial arts, the fast-paced, jaw-dropping family adventure must be seen to be believed.

The ShangHi show stars Boy-by-Boy Foot Juggling, dazzling diablo, strongman, trapeze, live percussion and much more.

Never forget!

Elephant-size celebrations

Howletts Wild Animal Park
0844 8424647
www.aspinallfoundation.org/howletts

THIS month is will be a proper pachyderm party at Howletts Wild Animal Park, Bekesbourne, as the team celebrates both International Elephant Day and International Rhino Day in September.

Visitors can follow the self-guided trails to discover facts about the biggest mammals on Earth as well as catch some of the free talks and events.

There will continue to be safari tours at the group's sister park at Port Lympne, Hythe, which recently celebrated the birth of a black rhino as well as a successful return to the wild for three adults of the species.

For more information about the pachyderm talks, visit the Aspinall Foundation website.



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That's poptastic, mate!

Frisky and Manish

The Gulbenkian, Canterbury
Saturday, September 29
01227 769075
www.kent.ac.uk/gulbenkian

COMEDY cabaret act Frisky and Manish, who are responsible for... well, messing about with classic pop songs, head to The Gulbenkian.

The creation of Laura Corcoran and Matthew Floyd Jones, the show describes what happens when two very funny people stumble across a compendium of the last 20 years of pop.

The changes they have made will have audiences both stunned and crying with laughter as Meat Loaf's I Would Do Anything For Love becomes a lullaby, Eye Of The Tiger becomes bluegrass and Come On Eileen a heartfelt ballad. "It's a crime against music", you could say... or you could agree that it's so bad it's good.

Pop royalty

Don't stop the champions

The Orchard Theatre, Dartford
Friday, October 12
01322 22 0000
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- Return coastal train Nice to Monaco
- Entry to Top Marques Monaco
- All transfers abroad



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Includes Happy Hour 5 to 7pm plus adult only entertainment venue				
8 Oct	Pakefield, Suffolk Coast	4	£89	PP10-2
15 Oct	Brean Sands, Somerset Coast	4	£119	PB10
Includes Happy Hour 5 to 7pm plus adult only entertainment venue				
15 Oct	Pakefield, Suffolk Coast	4	£89	PP10-3
22 Oct	Pakefield, Suffolk Coast	4	£89	PP10-4
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Isle of Wight Christmas Party

For over 40s only

Warner Norton Grange Resort

Self drive, 3 nights, drinks-inclusive

£199pp

Quote XN11-KOS

30 November, 2012

Christmas wouldn't be Christmas without GN Holidays annual Warner Christmas Party Extravaganza. The 2012 event – for over 40s only – will be the usual blend of fun and festivities. Norton Grange Resort - nicely located by the sea at Yarmouth, Isle of Wight - will be decked out for the Festive season. Mulled wine and mince pies will be served on arrival and, during your stay, you will enjoy great entertainment and Christmas dinner with all the trimmings.

INCLUDED:

- Free Bar from 6pm to 11pm every night - house beers & spirits, wine by the glass, pumped soft drinks & mixers
- Full Entertainment & Activities programme
- 3 dinners & 3 breakfasts
- 3 nights en-suite chalet accommodation
- Car ferry crossing



Hayling Island Christmas Party

For over 40s only

Mill Rythe Resort Hayling Island

Self drive, 3 nights, half board PLUS 99p Bar

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Quote XM11-KOS

23 November, 2012

Join us for a fun-packed Christmas Party - for over 40s only - at Mill Rythe Resort on Hayling Island, near Portsmouth. Enjoy hearty hospitality, great entertainment, including Jeff Hooper's Big Band - the Strictly Come Dancing tour band for the last 2 seasons. We've also got one of our favourite marching bands, the Dagenham Girls Pipers, on the bill. To keep the party mood alive there's a 99p Bar every night.

INCLUDED:

- 99p Bar 6pm to 11pm every evening
- Full Entertainment programme featuring Jeff Hooper's Big Band
- 3 dinners & 3 breakfasts
- 3 nights en-suite chalet accommodation - upgrades available

Historic hotel on the market

THE Larkfield Priory Hotel is being offered for sale by James A Baker, a property consultancy specialising in licensed, leisure and commercial, at a guide price of £1,700,000.

The original property dates from about 1890 and is about eight miles from Maidstone.

This 52-bedroom hotel provides letting rooms, a meeting/conference room, dining room and conservatory and lounge bar with a reception area.

All of the rooms are en-suite and the hotel comprises 12 singles, 37 doubles and three family-suite rooms.

Externally there is a further semi-detached Victorian cottage providing five separate rooms currently used for staff accommodation.

The hotel sits on a total plot of 1.74 acres and provides car-parking for 80 vehicles accessed via a private driveway from the nearby London Road.

Historically, planning was approved for a 54-bedroom residential nursing home, but this lapsed in 2011.

Challenger bank teams up with developer to help you get moving

By Nick Ames
nick.ames@archant.co.uk



EVOLUTION, the Fairview New Homes development in Ashford, is the first in Britain to offer prospective homebuyers funding from a new so-called challenger bank through the Government's mortgage-guarantee scheme, NewBuy.

NewBuy is the initiative designed to help overcome the deposit gap faced by many new homebuyers.

It is aimed at both first-time buyers and those who already own a home who only have funds for a 5-10 per cent deposit. For buyers meeting their qualifying criteria, the lenders participating in the scheme will provide a 90-95 per cent loan-to-value mortgage that is guaranteed by the Government.

Aldermore is the first of the new challenger banks to join the NewBuy scheme, partnering Fairview to offer funding to buyers of new houses at the development in Hunter Avenue.

Jim Holliday, sales and marketing director of Fairview New Homes, said: "We are delighted to be able to announce our partnership with Aldermore and to be the first of the UK house-builders to work with the new bank.

"Standing now as one of the best capitalised banks in the UK, Aldermore is an ideal addition to our roster of existing financial partners and will offer our homebuyers a new option in their choice of mortgage-provider."

Challenger banks have been established to provide an alternative to the usual high-street banks and are aimed at customers who have lost confidence in banking practices.

They aim to be more responsive to customers' needs and operate on a vastly-smaller scale.

NewBuy – through Aldermore – is available on all three- and four-bedroom houses at Evolution. The four-bedroom homes offer en-suites to the master bedroom and a large study on the top floor.

House prices start from £157,950 for a three-bedroom house, which, through the NewBuy scheme, will mean buyers will only need to find £7,898 for their deposit.

Further details about Evolution and the NewBuy mortgage-guarantee scheme can be found at www.fairview.co.uk or by phoning 0800 883 8149.



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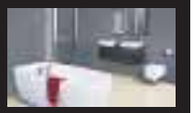
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Driving

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By Steve Loader
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk



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Image: ★★★★★
Space: ★★★★
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Reliability: ★★★★★
How green?: ★★★★
Best rival: BMW 1 Series

The evolutionary A3 more than deserves a second look

YOU must look hard to notice what Audi has done with its third-generation A3 hatchback, but other senses are quickly alert to the changes.

The new version, launched this weekend, simply feels so much better, with even higher-quality materials and controls – I particularly liked the retro alloy-ringed ventilation nozzles – plus more composed ride and handling.

Look again, though, and you'll see the car is no longer than before but the wheelbase has been lengthened and overhangs shortened to deliver a roomier cabin even on the debutante three-door model – the five-door Sportback arrives early next year – yet Audi has also managed to increase boot space slightly.

Cosmetically, it's an evolution rather than revolution against the previous car; a default option for those who dislike the looks of its key premium hatchback rivals, the dumpy BMW 1 Series and rakish Mercedes-Benz A-Class, arriving soon. The approach has served Audi well before; customers know their car's second-hand values won't be poleaxed by a radically-reworked successor.

And although the car is not cheap, customers will like what's been done beneath the paint because it will save cash. Aluminium and other lightweight yet high-strength construction conserves fuel and improves dynamics, saving up to 80kg in weight – equivalent to jettisoning a 12.5-stone adult passenger – and boosting fuel economy by up to 12 per cent, helped by start/stop fitted as standard.

Lighter weight brings another benefit: a nimbleness even on models with the comfort-orientated SE spec suspension, which can be ordered even on the more aggressive and highly-specified Sport or flagship S Line models, quashing past criticism that buyers couldn't have the top-spec look without the hard-nut suspension. This underpins Audi's projection that S Line will claim 40 per cent of sales, with the other two trims sharing the remainder equally.

Launch engines are familiar – turbocharged 122PS 1.4TFSI and 180PS 1.8TFSI petrols and a 150PS 2.0TDI diesel – but we'll have a 105PS 1.6TDI here by year-end capable of 74.3mpg on the combined cycle, with road-tax-exempt CO_2 emissions of just 99g/km.

The two ruthlessly-tax-efficient diesels should be a magnet for company-car user-choosers and take a whopping 70 per cent of orders, with the 2.0 alone taking 40 per cent, and it's a great car; the SE I drove was quick, comfortably sprung and yet still sharp on the corners.

But it's a shame that the lightly-loaded petrol models may get overlooked: the 1.8 TFSI Sport model, also tested and fitted with the excellent S-tronic manual/auto box, is a real point-and-shoot machine and it will be interesting to see how much more can be wrung from the chassis when more power and quattro all-wheel-drive is available later.





SPACIOUS: The new A3 is no longer than previous models, but adjusted wheel-positioning allows for plenty more room inside

DON'T LIKE

... that there's no five-door Sportback option from the off, but this will arrive within a few months rather than taking a year, like last time.

NOT SURE

... the A3 offers good value versus a Golf from sister brand VW, but executive downsizers will feel better through having that premium badge.

REALLY LIKE

... how Audi has retained crowd-pleasing conservative looks while refining quality and build and saving weight and running costs.

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Get on board Scénic's grand tour

By Steve Loader
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

IT WILL be a frustration for Renault that, having developed the people-carrier/MPV, it then witnessed others having more success with it.

The pioneer was the Renault Espacé, now into its fourth generation but no longer sold in the UK. It was followed in 1999 by 'son of Espacé', the Scénic, offering similar versatility in a smaller package that others rushed to emulate.

Indeed, so good were these imitators that Renault not only quickly lost control of the Scénic's compact MPV sector but was also forced into competing with rivals like the Vauxhall Zafira by offering a seven-seat alternative, the Grand Scénic.

The good news for the French brand, though, is that, three generations on, the latest Scénic (from £18,335 in five-seat format) is one of the better small people-movers on the market, being a clever mix of distinctive style and flair, with real versatility and some of the best engines around.

The range had a facelift earlier this year to bring it up to date with a revised nose featuring gloss black and chrome detailing, plus LED daytime running lights.

The car also has futuristic new rear lights.

A revised engine choice includes two new eco-friendly units in a five-strong line-up: a turbocharged 1.2 TCe 115 petrol and 1.5 dCi 110 Stop/Start diesel – the latter can average almost 70mpg.

The big news for me, though, is the range-topping 1.6 dCi 130 diesel powerplant, which Renault claims is the world's most powerful engine of its type for its size. It's punchy yet smooth, and frugal, too – 64.2 mpg (combined cycle) with CO_2 emissions of just 115g/km.

This incurs zero road tax in year one and just £30 a year thereafter, which is staggeringly good for a car with this sort of power and load-carrying flexibility

Not surprisingly, it was the unit we focused on for the test, fitted into the £22,725 flagship Grand Scénic Dynamique Tom Tom – as you may gather, it comes with a factory-fitted sat-nav developed jointly by Renault and budget sat-nav developer Tom Tom.

You get a lot for your money generally with the Scénic range, so spend as close to your limit as possible. Dynamique spec brings all the electrics you would expect, plus cruise-control, rain-sensing wipers, rear sunblinds, seat back tables for the rear passengers and smart 16-inch alloys, and I would be tempted by the £1,500 leather pack – black leather seats, heated front ones with electric adjustment for the driver.

The interior is well trimmed and typically Gallic in style, but there is a greater air of quality about the car these days.

Standard equipment also includes a jaw-dropping 40 stowage spaces – totalling 83 litres plus an impressive boot volume of 564 litres, expanding to 2,063 litres with rear seats folded – the five rear chairs can be arranged in any format according to passenger/cargo needs.

If there is a negative against this smart yet functional space wagon, then it has to be the rear seats; key rivals allow these to be folded into the floor, but the Scénic's simply fold, making it impossible to quickly convert the car into a van without releasing and lugging them out of the car – something many would-be buyers simply won't have expected to have to do.

Progress is biased more towards a superb ride rather than tight handling, but that is what most customers will be buying this stylish MPV for, and the set-up handles the increasingly-rutted and potholed British country lane better than previous-generation Scénics.

All in all, there is much to recommend taking the Scénic route – Grand Scénic models start at £19,735.

RENAULT GRAND SCÉNIC 1.6 DCI (130) DYNAMIQUE TOMTOM : PRICE £22,725



Driving appeal:	★★★
Image:	★★★★★
Space:	★★★★★
Value:	★★★★★
Running costs:	★★★★★
Reliability:	★★★★
How green?:	★★★★★
Road tax:	£30 (zero year 1)
Best rival:	Vauxhall Zafira

Kent dealers:

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STANDING THE TEST: Renault has developed one of the best people-movers with its newest range of Scénics, none more so than the Grand Scénic, which offers a lot of car for the money

First GEAR

MOTORING NEWS



Range Rover's diesel hybrid

JAGUAR Land Rover has opened order books on the next Range Rover – generation four in a 40-year-old dynasty.

Starting at £71,295, the new range will shake up the market by offering the world's first proper diesel hybrid SUV, with its CO_2 emissions of just 169g/km, helped by an advanced lightweight all-aluminium body saving 420kg compared with the previous car.



Ecoboost star for Mondeo

FORD has opted for evolution over revolution in styling the next Mondeo, though the UK market-leader does talk about it using "a new global design language".

Of greater note is an engine line-up including the marque's award-winning 1.0-litre EcoBoost petrol engine – could anyone have foreseen such a small capacity engine in such a large car, say five years ago?



Sportswagon looking good

KIA has launched what may be the best-looking estate car in the family hatchback market segment by adding a load-lugger to its impressive Ceed line-up.

The new Sportswagon also spells out its appeal, too, rather than using the 'SW' suffix of the car it replaces. Prices start at £16,895 and the car comes with Kia's usual seven-year/100,000-mile warranty.

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MOTORLINE PRICE
£6,895
YOU SAVE
£1,450

REPRESENTATIVE FINANCE EXAMPLE

36 monthly payments of	£95.39	Annual mileage	10,000
Customer deposit	£1,525.25	Excess mileage charge per mile (+VAT)	14.9p
On the road price	£6,895	Duration of agreement	37 months
Optional final payment of	£2,783.75	Annual fixed interest rate	3.55%
Amount of credit	£5,369.75	Representative APR	6.9%
Total payable	£7,743.04		

New Hyundai i20 Active 1.2 5 door

JUST £129 WITH £250 DEPOSIT CONTRIBUTION PER MONTH!

MRRP £10,945
MOTORLINE PRICE
£9,395
YOU SAVE
£1,550

FINANCE EXAMPLE

36 monthly payments of	£129	Total payable	£10,513.75
Deposit Contribution*	£250	Annual mileage	10,000
Customer deposit	£2,007.25	Excess mileage charge per mile (+VAT)	14.9p
On the road price	£9,395	Duration of agreement	37 months
Optional final payment of	£3,612.50	Annual fixed interest rate	3.55%
Amount of credit	£7,137.75	APR	6.9%

New Hyundai i30 Active 1.4 5 door

JUST £194.86 PER MONTH!

MOTORLINE PRICE
£15,550
£1,100
TOWARDS YOUR DEPOSIT

FINANCE EXAMPLE

36 monthly payments of	£194.86	Total payable	£17,123.46
Customer deposit	£3,908.50	Annual mileage	10,000
Deposit Contribution*	£1,100	Excess mileage charge per mile (+VAT)	14.9p
On the road price	£15,500	Duration of agreement	37 months
Optional final payment of	£5,100	Annual fixed interest rate	3.55%
Amount of credit	£10,491.50	APR	6.9%

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MRRP = Maunfacturers Recommended Retail Price. *Only available with a Hyundai Finance Scheme. Finance supplied, subject to age and status, by Hyundai Motor Finance, RH1 1SR. Guarantees/indemnities may be required. Written quotations on request. Finance offers are not available for customers under the Hyundai Affinity Programme. Terms and conditions apply. At the end of the Personal Contract Purchase there are three options: (i) Renew: Part exchange the vehicle, where equity is available (ii) Retain: Pay the Optional Final Payment to own the vehicle or (iii) Return the vehicle. Further charges may be made subject to the condition of the vehicle. Prices shown include VAT, delivery, vehicle first registration fee, number plates and 12 months' road fund licence. All offers are only available to private retail customers on new cars purchased and registered in the UK (excluding Channel Islands or Isle of Man), between 1st July and 30th September 2012, sourced through Hyundai Motor UK Ltd or its authorised dealers. Offers are subject to availability, may be varied or withdrawn at any time and cannot be used in conjunction with any other offers. Warranty terms and exclusions apply. See www.hyundai.co.uk/owners/5Year Warranty or ask your local dealer.

Fuel consumption in MPG (l/100km) for Hyundai range: Urban 25.9 (10.9) - 61.4 (4.6), Extra Urban 39.8 (7.1) - 74.3 (3.8), Combined 33.2 (8.5) - 67.3 (4.2) CO2 Emissions 225 - 99 g/km





FUTURE'S BRIGHT: The Hyundai i30 Tourer, far left, is new for its 10th anniversary year, while the Korean carmaker will also release an updated Santa Fe, left, next month

Ten years of Hyundai's peace-of-mind deal

By Steve Loader
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

HYUNDAI is celebrating the 10th anniversary of its five-year, unlimited-mileage warranty.

Groundbreaking at the time, few rivals have been moved to match or exceed it, though sister brand Kia now offers seven years, albeit with a 100,000 cap on mileage.

Looking back, though, it's not hard to see why the Korean marque was moved to such generosity: there was little else to attract UK buyers apart from price.

Hyundai's range then included the Accent and Elantra – two cheap yet forgettable cars that straddled the Ford Focus sector – and the 'tragic' Trajet people-carrier, which was roomy but had a horrible ride.

However, the original Santa Fe had arrived the year before and, while the visual appeal was dubious, there were signs of better things to come.

Then the Getz supermini made its debut in 2002 and was a revelation, even if the interior quality fell short of its rivals.

Ten years on, UK buyers hardly need the five-year warranty and Hyundai's value-for-money pricing and specifications to persuade them to buy.

Driving dynamics and interiors are vastly improved and, with a five-year model replacement cycle rather than the seven-year norm with Western carmakers, Hyundai has had plenty of opportunity to show how quickly it has mastered its art; last year's classy i40 range showed the brand now has the family car or Mondeo sector taped.

And this year has been a landmark, with the all-new Veloster coupé, the second-generation i30 family hatchback and Tourer (estate) and the soon-to-be-launched third-generation Santa Fe.

With the Veloster, Hyundai has created a unique proposition; a coupé that has a third door allowing easy access to rear seats from the passenger side of the car. Criticism that it lacked an engine with real performance was rebuffed by the arrival of a meatier, turbocharged model.

Meanwhile, the new i30 has become a genuine contender against the 'best of the West' – the VW Golf, Ford Focus and Vauxhall Astra – with the estate combining smart looks with huge load-carrying capacity.

And the latest Santa Fe, due in October, will make people question whether they want to pay more for a five- or seven-seat SUV when they can have a smart and well-made and equipped rival from £25,495. Hyundai has already posted the same question to compact-SUV buyers with its highly-successful ix35.



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The official fuel consumption in mpg (l/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km) for the 208 range are: Urban 34.9 – 78.4 (8.1 – 3.6), Extra Urban 62.8 – 88.2 (4.5 – 3.2), Combined 48.7 – 83.0 (5.8 – 3.4) and CO_2 135-87

‡Just Add Fuel® Terms and conditions apply – For full details of Just Add Fuel® see participating dealers or visit www.peugeot.co.uk. *The first year Road Fund License (RFL) is included in the on the road price. The Dealer will provide customers with a cheque equivalent to twice the current RFL cost. It is the customer's responsibility to apply for RFL for years 2 and 3. Just Add Fuel (JAF) package subject to status and conditions. †Minimum age 21, 25 years or 30 years on selected models, maximum age 75 years. Policyholder must have a minimum of two years NCD to use on the vehicle. All drivers must meet eligibility criteria including limits on driving convictions and claims. Excesses apply. 3 years motor insurance will be provided and underwritten by U K Insurance Limited, which is authorised and regulated by the Financial Services Authority. A guarantee may be required. Written quotations available on request from Peugeot Financial Services, Quadrant House, Princess Way, Redhill, RH1 1QA. JAF is incorporated into a Personal Lease contract. 208 Active 1.0 VTi 68 3dr initial rental £1,518, optional final rental of £5,357 If you choose to pay off the optional final rental at the end of contract, you can keep the car but will not own it – you will pay an annual rental equivalent to one of your monthly rentals. However, car ownership is possible with Passport JAF – ask us for details. Rentals quoted on a typical customer of each model range. Total monthly rentals will vary according to age, post code and annual mileage. Excess mileage charges may apply. Routine servicing included only. Excludes wear parts. This offer is not available in Northern Ireland. Model Exclusions apply.

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Official Government Test Environmental Data. Fuel consumption figures mpg (litres/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km). Vauxhall range (excluding Ampera): Urban: 14.4 (19.6) - 67.3 (4.2), Extra-urban: 27.4 (10.3) - 91.1 (3.1), Combined: 20.6 (13.7) - 80.7 (3.5). CO_2 emissions: 324 - 94g/km. Vauxhall Ampera: Combined/weighted: 235.4mpg (1.2). CO_2 emissions: 27g/km.

Model shown is Corsa Limited Edition 1.2i 16v VVT 3dr. Offer available to individuals for orders received between 03.07.12 and 01.10.12. Figures based on a non-maintenance contract hire package over 36 months and 6,000 miles per year (max). An advance rental of £1,170 is payable, then 35 monthly rentals of £195. Rentals and excess charges are based on the current VAT rate. An excess charge of up to 4.58ppm will be applied for mileage in excess of 6,000 miles p.a. Excess charges also apply if the car is not serviced and maintained in accordance with manufacturer guidelines and returned to Vauxhall Leasing in a condition commensurate with the BVRLA Fair Wear & Tear guidelines for its age and mileage. Package includes Road Fund Licence and Vauxhall Assistance. Offer subject to availability and status. UK supplied vehicles only. For full specification, details, terms and conditions contact your local Retailer. Guarantee and/or indemnity may be required. Applicants must be 18 or over. Details correct at time of publication and may vary, e.g. if list price changes. Personal contract hire by ALD Automotive Ltd., trading as Vauxhall Leasing, Oakwood Park, Lodge Causeway, Fishponds, Bristol BS16 3JA. Model shown includes optional alloys and front fog lights at an extra cost.

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SARAH 40, large, tactile, likes cuddles, walks, cinema, beach, meals out, seeking male for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390912**

FLOSSY likes cinema, meals out, nights in, looking for N/S male, 65-66 for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392906**

5FT 7ins female, blue eyes, black hair, trustworthy, GSOH, likes animals, walks, nights in/out, seeks male for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 396149**

56YR old female, likes music, varied interests, seeking well travelled male, 46-60 for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392834**

DEBBIE is 28yrs, petite and blonde. Loves gym and fitness. WLTM a sensitive male, looks and age unimportant. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 395659**

LADY 70's, easygoing, likes most things, medium build, seeks gent for friendship, car owner. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386331**

SENSUAL 32yr old professional with no time to have a relationship, seeks similar understanding male for compatible discreet relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386309**

BECKY 34 single mum of one, GSOH, employed with OHAC, fun to be with and very loving, WLTM Mr Right if he is out there? ACA. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386305**

LOUISE young 48, long hair, blue eyes, cultured, easygoing, good natured, seeks intelligent, genuine guy for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389389**

TINA young 64, smoker, GSOH, loving, caring, likes animals, meals out, seeks male for companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394201**

JULIE 5ft 9ins blue eyed blonde looking for male for mutually convenient meets, looks/status unimportant, discretion a must. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394123**

SUSAN first time advertiser very lonely and looking for love with considerate, loyal male with lots of love to give and GSOH. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393489**

TRACY likes nights in/out, seeking honest male, 36-46 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391884**

SERENE affable black attractive slim female 37 with a benevolent smile, friendly, loves reading nature, theatre, music, sports WLTM genuine caring gent, 34-47 to share laughter/life. London **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 369411**

BUBBLY female, 49, kind, caring, honest, GSOH, brown hair, blue eyes, likes meals out, pubs, cooking, cinema, seeks male with similar interests for friendship/relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390815**

HAPPY young looking 71yr old female, well travelled, intelligent, GSOH, seeks genuine, affectionate male, 60 plus. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393897**

CHRISSY 51, 5ft 8ins, blue eyes, brown hair, large build, size 22, seeks local male from loving relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 395209**

ATTRACTIVE caring lady, 77, 5ft 1ins, GSOH, fit, varied interests, seeks sincere gent, N/S for companionship and happiness. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 395453**

GILLY green eyed red haired nurse looking to start a new life with similar lonely male also looking for genuine love. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 395043**

ANNE attractive 30's student nurse who loves to keep fit and travel looking for broadminded professional male, any age/looks. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 395037**

CLAIRE 19yr old bored busty blonde seeking male for fun times in or out. Discretion assured. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 395033**

LINDA 42, easygoing, likes cinema, walks, theatre, seeks N/S male with similar interests for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 395523**

FIT active lady, early 70's, honest, caring, OHAC, likes gardening, music/dance, seeking nice companion to enjoy life together and have good times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394915**

LADY likes most things, wishes to meet gent 62-68 for evenings in/out, cinema, walks, talks and LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392472**

RACHAEL blonde haired attractive female 27, looking for love with fun guy who like me is not looking for anything too serious, Any age. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394667**

TRACY mum of two, blonde, slim, attractive, tactile and very sexy for age, WLTM male 30-50yrs for ltr, single dad welcome. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394665**

LESLEY professional single mum, a bit of a chatterbox, loves fine dining/wining, WLTM eligible bachelor to take advantage of. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394659**

SALLY 27yr old Air Hostess seeking honest reliable male to join the mile high club, discreet liaisons and friendship with benefits. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394655**

GINA 65, likes bowling, golf, looking for N/S male, 60-66 for friendship, fun, nights in and out. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394623**

JEANETTE big brown eyed busty fit size 10 with lots of interest, searching for a sincere man to share love and life with. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374703**

JENNY very young shy black female looking for reliable, genuine nice older man to help me become an attentive lover, 40-70yrs. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374701**

HELLO I'm Jane, attractive, genuine, caring, intelligent, romantic and single at 38yrs, what are you waiting for? Call me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 374677**

ALISHA blue eyed petite brunette, likes to keep fit, cooking, holidays, seeks male 30-45 for special times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392399**

MICHELE very attractive black single mum, 32yrs, someone you could take home to your mother, seeking a one in a million guy. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391879**

GEORGINA likes horses, dogs, walks, seeks male, 60-72 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 386426**

TANYA 28, beautiful black single mum, very body confident and all out of love. Lonely and looking for good company with experienced respectful man. Any age/looks. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381727**

HI genuine, fun to be with male? Nancy 39, attractive, discreet, lonely and in need of some much missed male attention. Call me **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381705**

IRENE looking for happy go lucky relationship with trustworthy male for romantic evenings in, quiet nights out, passionate weekends away and more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 381701**

SLIM tall, elegant, feminine, NS, solvent lady, young 50's, loves travel, red wine, seeks tall, sincere, military/professional gent of high calibre. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 388071**

JEM 24 new to this, WLTM someone who also enjoys fine wine/dining for good times and adult relationship, 28-45yrs. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392497**

ELIZABETH 70 plus, enjoys life, GSOH, seeks caring man for friendship/relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390990**

51YR old attractive Queen of the Jungle, seeking genuine, caring older gent for uncomplicated times together. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390916**

JACKIE 32 attractive classy professional, blue eyes, brown hair, healthy/trim, well travelled, feminine, smart, seeks male, 40-50yrs. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391013**

JAYNE honest sincere attractive lonely professional, OHAC, looking for fun times with similar lonely gent, age/status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 390985**

AFFABLE serene black attractive slim female 37 with a benevolent smile, loves reading nature, theatre, music WLTM genuine caring gent to share laughter/life. London **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 369411**

MEL easy going middle aged singleton looking for adult companionship with nice male who appreciates a feminine, attractive lady. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392487**

WELL educated female, slim, smart, mid 50's, needing to restart life, looking for tall, slim, smart gent with GSOH. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391136**

SLIM tall, elegant, feminine N/S, solvent lady, young 50's, likes travel, red wine, seeks tall, sincere, professional/military gent of high calibre. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394525**

LADY 70, likes most things, WLTM gent of similar age for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394309**

GINA 65, likes bowling, golf, looking for N/S male, 60-66 for friendship, fun, nights in and out. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394623**

HELEN 34yr old single mum to one, tall, slim and attractive, WLTM intelligent male for good conversations and adult meets, 30-50yrs. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394475**

ELISA blue eyed brunette 39, curvy and delicious, loves to travel and live life, seeking similar free spirited loving male. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394461**

PAULA 27, attractive brunette, very outgoing and sensual looking for similar male for mature broadminded relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394571**

KAREN pretty single mum of one, 34, independent, professional, OHAC, looking for someone special to enjoy good times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394563**

MID 40's slim, attractive female, seeks single male, 65-80 for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391989**

DONNA 24yr old single nurse, curvy, pretty, brown hair, big eyes, single and fun to be with, WLTM mature male for romance 25-45yrs. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391117**

SARAH 27yr old single mum, independent, very pretty, GOSH, many interests, seeking male for cuddles and lots of TLC. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391097**



DENISE very normal single white female, likes nights in/out, keeping fit, seeking genuine romantic black male for ltr. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391093**

MARGARET middle aged, attractive, likes storm chasing, cooking, seeks male with GSOH, possible forces. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391648**

VICKY 26yr old pretty blonde, athletic, good job, great house/car, single and getting bored, looking for male to entertain me. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394459**

I'M Dawn a petite medium built female who enjoys most things looking for fun, love and companionship. Any age/looks/status. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394129**

YOUNG in outlook 60yr old lady, seeks gent with similar interests. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393173**

JUDY slim blue eyed blonde, 35yrs, great fun, intelligent, educated, N/S, seeks witty guy for gym dates, friendship and more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393135**

VERY attractive single black female, 32, loves night in/out, seeking genuine companion for text fun, love and laughter. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393131**

FAY very lonely single mum, 26yrs looking for some adult companionship with open minded, non-judgmental male. Status unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393121**

LORRAINE 32yr old petite attractive female looking for male to turn up the heat on our rather gloomy summer. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393119**

LADY 60's, bubbly, hurt in past, likes socialising, cooking, cats, holidays, seeks kind honest gent, 58-65 for friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389653**

KIRSTY 44yr going on 24yrs, sensual, attractive and in need of spoiling, and attention, seeks likeminded male for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383051**

CLARE 36yr old nurse, pretty, slim, active, all round good catch, seeking male 40-70yrs for mature loving relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393479**

SUSAN gorgeous 29yr old lonely Scottish lass new to area and at loose end, seeking reliable caring male up to 40yrs for friendship/more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393465**

JACQ 45, slim, natural blonde, blue eyes, GSOH, seeks confident guy for company/friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391564**

KAREN 38 slim and attractive seeking confident professional for companionship, status/looks unimportant. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392407**

28YR old lady, seeking male, 35-60 for serious relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391756**

BUBBLY fun loving single mum, 47, seeks Knight in shining armour, 38-55 to put the spark back into life. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392951**

SHARON 33, slim blonde, blue eyes outgoing, attractive, looking to put some much needed fun back into life, seeks male 30-45yrs. ACA. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 383047**

Men Seeking

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SIMON looking for female for adult fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392642**

MATURE gent seeks attractive young female as companion on 6 week holiday in late August. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 395529**

PRESENTABLE Surrey male, looking for lady for afternoon fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 395521**

MICHAEL romantic, honest, caring, seeks lady to brighten up lonely life, likes walks, meals out, nights in. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 395445**

BRIAN fun loving, happy go lucky guy, likes meals out, cinema, country walks, own business/home, seeking romance with loving, caring female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392894**

ROY 43, 6ft, attractive, GSOH, likes gym, seeking female for no strings fun. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392598**

ANDY businessman likes animals, meals out, seeking happy, outgoing female to enjoy life with. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 395591**

SUB male, WLTM mature extremely dominant female for happy relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 395327**

CHARLES 51, GSOH, seeking female, 25-65 for cuddles and love. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 395513**

DAVID 37, good looking, fit, seeking older lady for discreet relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392242**

JAMES 40's, good looking, single dad, seeking lovely lady for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393665**

49YR old male, 6ft 1ins, easygoing, seeking serious relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394535**

50 and shades of grey, looking for day time fun with female, 18-65. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394401**

SPANISH/SWEDISH speaker sought for 67yr old Chartered Accountant for education and companionship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392306**

MALE likes animals, simple things in life, seeks N/S, tall, slim female with GSOH. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391738**

DAN 18, easygoing, looking for sweet, petite female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 395215**

ROMANTIC white male, early 50's, tall, dark, attractive, many interests, seeks tall, black lady. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 395213**

MALE seeking easygoing female for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 395157**

CHAS GSOH, looking for friendship, leading to relationship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 395119**

SUSSEX male, 50, attractive, seeks N/S, younger, attractive female for LTR. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 395019**

ANDREW 6ft 4ins, medium build, outdoor type, gardener, GSOH, likes walks, animals, cycling, seeks N/S female to brighten up life. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392476**

TED 58, GSOH, likes travel, cooking, gardening, DIY, music, films, seeks female. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 394905**

LIGHT hearted 58yr old male, 6ft, blue eyes, slim, lively, active, seeks pretty woman 28-50 for fun times. Croydon. **Tel No:0906 515 7112 Box No: 393567**

EXPERIENCED fella 55, good fun, seeks lady, 35-55 for exciting times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393797**

MALE 56, seeks adventurous lady, 46-55 for uncomplicated friendship. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393763**

HAPPY go lucky male, 50, GSOH, seeks female for relationship and fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393739**

AFFECTIONATE fun loving male, 50, good company, slim, dark hair, blue eyes, seeks female to share good times together. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393649**

STEWART 50, 5ft 11ins, likes dancing, seeking companionship, maybe more with lady 40-50. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392178**

BRETT 35, enjoy socialising, cinema, travel, gym, seeking female, 25-35. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 393883**

44YR old single man, 5ft 8ins, OHAC, N/S, seeking lady, late 30-40's for friendship, maybe more. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392132**

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CHRIS 5ft 7ins, medium build, submissive, seeks male 50 plus for fun times. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 396029**

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STRAIGHT lady, 60, young outlook, seeks single, unattached friends for socialising, travel, theatre, lunch etc. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 392318**

SINGLE straight lady, seeking similar ladies for nights out, shopping, coffee and socialising. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 391102**

BERNIE 43 straight looking for single ladies for socialising, nights out, coffee, shopping, bowling and cinema. **Tel No: 0906 515 7112 Box No: 389490**

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Pictures: ADY KERRY



AMBITIOUS: Kent chief executive Jamie Clifford is keen to get it right first time as discussions begin on how to refurbish the Frank Woolley stand (second from left), after other buildings have seen improvement

CRICKET

Bold vision "essential" for club's future

By Greg Miles
greg.miles@archant.co.uk

KENT need to continue on a bold and ambitious path, according to Kent chief executive Jamie Clifford, as they look to enter the next phase of redeveloping the St Lawrence Ground.

The county has embarked on a huge overhaul of its historic ground in the last 18 months with the Les Ames and Colin Cowdrey stands being transformed, while there are new administration offices, dressing rooms, press facilities, and more.

And now the county is pushing on with plans to re-develop the 90-year-old Frank Woolley stand. That development will take one of three forms, ranging in cost to an estimated £4million, depending on the scale of the idea.

Clifford feels it would be a missed opportunity if they held back on their ambitions.

"There are various options from simply repainting to re-cladding the existing frame to demolishing and rebuilding," he said. "We have got to work out what's achievable in building terms and then funding terms.

"Bearing in mind you only get one shot at it, it's stood there for more than 90 years so whatever we do is probably going to be there for a long time.

"We might as well make it as ambitious as we can.

"We want to think broad in what we might achieve and then hone in on what's achievable and what fits in with the rest of the ground. We have got to establish what's possible first.

"I think we should aim big - it would be wrong to think 'oh let's just give it a lick of paint'. We should be very bold, anything else might be selling ourselves a bit short. We have got to get it right."

Discussions will take place in the off season about what can be achieved in terms of the refurbishment and how it will be funded.

Clifford said it would be funded in a similar way to how the Colin Cowdrey stand refurbishment was, but stressed it wouldn't happen overnight.



"The Colin Cowdrey stand is a good example," he said. "It was achieved through grants, a couple of legacies, some traditional fundraising, and just a focus of where people's attentions are in terms of making something special happen.

"We are going to work very hard in the winter to understand what we can achieve. By the end of the winter we want to be very clear on what we are going to do.

"There will be a period of consultation at some stage. It's not going to be instant, fans will be sitting in the Woolley stand next year."

Fans may question why more fundraising needs to be done after the club sold land for a housing development which is all-but complete. The answer is that money has already been put to use, as Clifford explains: "Floodlights, services into the ground, the roadways, the infrastructure, the Les Ames stand and complete reconfiguration of that, the Colin Cowdrey stand conference space, the pavilion, dressing rooms, video analysis rooms, press facilities and the new club hub building.

"We have seen a massive improvement in our facilities; a transformation really."

A second part of the plans, which is more dependant on the recession, is the idea to build a hotel along the Old Dover Road side of the ground, for which the county was given planning permission in 2007.

"We are talking with a developer at the moment who may ultimately develop the site," he said. "We don't just want a box of a hotel that springs up in two weeks.

"We can't have that on the side of one of the most picturesque grounds in the country. It comes at a premium so the builder has to be confident they can deliver.

"There is a gap between the one we want to build and amount of money it will cost. That's scuppering us at the moment."

Clifford admitted that in an ideal world the hotel would have already been built.

"I believe Canterbruy does need a hotel of that style and scale. When the market recovers we should see more interest, we had developers falling over themselves before," he said. "We are now at the stage where there is the odd bit of interest and post recession that interest should return."

To save the county having to deal with a potential 'white elephant' the hotel would be leased to an operator rather than sold off.

"It would be done on a long lease so it's not a sale, but close to a sale," he said. "If something were to go wrong, you wouldn't end up with a building sitting empty."

MOTORSPORT

New series to re-energise single-seater racing, says Brands Hatch chief

BRANDS Hatch is set to host a round of a 'groundbreaking' new single-seater series next year.

The track's owner, MotorSport Vision (MSV), has created the Formula 4 Championship for junior drivers with the aim to provide a cost-effective stepping stone for youngsters wanting to make it to the top of the sport.

The series will be run in partnership with the British Racing Drivers' (BRDC) Club and MSV.

Teams will be encouraged to purchase and run the newly built BRDC Formula 4 cars alongside private family-run entries in a bid to create a healthy and competitive paddock. Teams wishing to join the championship will be limited to running a maximum of four cars. The cost of participation is expected to range from £35,000 for a private entrant to £70,000 for a professional team.



COMPETITIVE: The F4 series will give young talent a chance to rise to the top

MSV chief executive Jonathan Palmer said: "It is clear that British motorsport needs a new single-seater championship that really attracts the young talent of today to produce large competitive grids of drivers aiming for F1.

"At MSV we have used all of our considerable experience and judgment to launch what I think is a compelling package which I believe will re-energise this sector of motor racing.

"I am very excited about the prospects for the BRDC Formula 4 Championship and am delighted that our vision has been shared by the BRDC, whose president, Derek Warwick, has already demonstrated tremendous enthusiasm and interest in the detail operation of the championship.

"We are in an era of relative austerity, which looks like continuing for some years, and it is essential we provide young single seater drivers with an affordable path to learn and prove themselves.

"With F4 we have focused on four key areas; providing the lowest season running costs, the lowest car purchase price, the highest levels of car equality and highest safety standards."

F4 cars will be sold to competitors, whether teams or private entrants, who will operate the cars themselves. Palmer explained: "We want to enable both privateers to run cars competitively and welcome teams too.

"At this level costs can be lower if drivers look after cars themselves, with family and friends, though we are also keen for teams, existing and new, to run cars and provide valuable support to drivers."

MSV's race organising division MotorSport Vision Racing (MSVR) will run the championship, which will see drivers take part in 24 races across eight meetings.

The 2013 calendar will include races at Silverstone, Brands Hatch (on the Grand Prix circuit), Donington Park, Snetterton 300 and Oulton Park. At Brands Hatch it will support the prestiguous DTM series.

• For more information about the series and how to join, visit www.formula4.com.

FOOTBALL

Fleet ace Elder is refusing to take his eye off the ball

By Greg Miles
greg.miles@archant.co.uk

IT wasn't that long ago Nathan Elder was told to give up football after suffering a horrific eye injury, but after overcoming his fear of heading the ball, and moving back to his home town, he is more confident in his ability than ever.

Three years ago, while playing for Brentford, his left eye socket and cheekbone were broken in a mid-air collision with Rotherham midfielder Pablo Mills.

Doctors told him he shouldn't play football again because of the fragility around his eye, which was especially vulnerable as the 6ft 3inch frontman relies on his ability to challenge in the air. But he ignored their advice and carried on playing.

Since then he has spent time in the north at Shrewsbury and then Hereford last season - a long journey from his home that's just a ten minute drive from Stonebridge Road. It meant he would see his family and two young children on Sundays before leaving them for the week while he trained. But now he's back after joining the Fleet this summer.

"No disrespect to Hereford, but I'm a lot happier. I'm a lot more confident in my ability," said the 27-year-old. "My family live in Hornchurch which is ten minutes away, that was where I spent my childhood."

At first he was scared of heading the ball, and wasn't allowed to in training: "Because I'm physical and strong in the air it was a barrier I had to push over. The first time I headed the ball I was scared. I remember in training sessions I was banned from heading the ball, I would be fined £10 every time I headed it, just so I was careful. There were a couple of times I watched it in the air and I thought I haven't got any money on me so I let it go over my head."

Thanks to staff at Brentford, and support he received from fans across the country he is now feeling a lot more settled.

"I don't know why, but I feel more confident now." he said. "When the ball is in the air I feel like the ball is mine to win and the defender is scared of me. I feel like a new player. I feel so lucky to be playing."

Picture: DAVE PLUMB



HAPPY: Nathan Elder has been among the goals for Ebbsfleet United following his summer arrival

HOCKEY

Club keen to cash in on spirit and enthusiasm of summer

WITH the hockey season set to start Maidstone chairman Roger Daniels is determined not to lose the momentum created by the Olympics.

The club held a number of events across the summer in a bid to encourage more people to take up the sport, and while there has been a boost in numbers he says the hard work starts now to make sure the players are retained.

"I'm determined that what we don't do is lose the momentum and people say 'well I turned up and everybody was friendly but nothing has happened' - we are doing our very best to make sure that doesn't happen," he said.

"Having got people here I will be banging on to my colleagues to get them playing."

He said there is no shortage of space for new players in the game: "Last season just about every club in the country had stretched squads, players were doubling up, for instance six players would play two matches."

He said there has been an influx of new junior players, but it's not known whether they would have joined regardless of the feel-good factor around sport at the moment.

"I think we have had at least ten new players join the junior set-up - that's very successful," he said. "What I don't know is whether half of them would have come anyway."

The ladies first team start their league campaign this weekend at Cambridge City, while the men's team start at the end of the month.

If you fancy having a go at hockey the club is still running taster sessions on Tuesdays from 7pm-8pm. For more information visit www.maidstonehockey.org.



TASTER: Have-a-go sessions still on

FOOTBALL

Taylor refuses to rule out returning to Priestfield

FORMER Gillingham boss Peter Taylor hasn't ruled out a return to the club one day after admitting he was in contact with chairman Paul Scally during the summer when the position was vacant.

Taylor was in charge when the Gills were promoted to the old Division One via the play-offs in the 1999/2000 season, and is now manager of Bahrain.

While the former Dartford boss said he'd been in contact with Scally about a role at the club he wouldn't reveal how he would have been involved after Andy Hessenthaler stepped down.

"I spoke to Paul [Scally] about a few things," he said. "Things like different roles at clubs, it wasn't so much me coming back but we touched on it a bit.

"He knows deep down I want to come back one day, If there's a job there one day who knows? I need to sort out this little adventure, and we were aware of that when we talked.

"It wasn't the favourite idea for both of us. I signed an agreement here and I would like to see it out."

He admitted he misses the day to day management in England and would look to return to British shores once his two-year deal in the Middle East expires next summer.

"There's a lot of me that misses English football," he said. "I do miss the Saturdays, people don't realise how lucky they are."



VACANCY: Taylor and Scally had talks

RUGBY



Picture: HELEN WATSON

AMITIOUS: Rory Teague aiming high

Fly-half Teague wants a top three finish for new side Blackheath

DESPITE coming from a family of well-known forwards, new Blackheath star Rory Teague was always keen to buck the trend as a fly-half.

The cousin of 'Iron' Mike Teague, who played 27 Test matches in the England back-row as well as two for the Lions, was actually dissuaded from the position by his grandfather who played front-row for Gloucester.

"He encouraged me to play in the back-line.

"He said 'you don't want to end up with cauliflower ears like me'," the Blackheath star said. "I have played at full-back a few times, but it's always been the pivotal role that attracted me the most."

The 27-year-old said his cousin has been a great help to his career: "Having Mike around has always been a great motivation for me.

"I've got huge respect for what he's achieved and I'd love to emulate just part of it. I enjoy his company and it's always nice to relate to him when we meet."

Teague grew up in Gloucester and played alongside current Northampton Saints fly-half Ryan Lamb at Spartans RFC before moving on to the Gloucester Rugby Academy, and a handful of games in the senior side.

He then embarked on a four-year stint in France with Tarbes Pyrenees Rugby followed by FC Grenoble which helped him grow up.

"I wanted a new experience and turning up in an environment where I didn't know anybody and couldn't speak the language was certainly that," he said.

"I matured a lot, both in rugby and life in general, and I've learned to speak good French."

Last year, he returned to England and through former Gloucester colleague Andy Deacon, found his way to Cinderford, making his mark by helping to guide the Forest of Dean side to eighth in the National League One table and ending the season as the division's top points scorer on 254.

Having landed a coaching role at Harrow School he is looking to a long-term future in the south east: "It's great being part of a close-knit squad at Blackheath and I'm ambitious for us to do well. I want to play every game and I think we should be looking at a minimum of a top three finish this season. That's what the club achieved last year and I don't want us to take a step backwards."

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FUTURE'S BRIGHT: The Hyundai i30 Tourer, far left, is new for its 10th anniversary year, while the Korean carmaker will also release an updated Santa Fe, left, next month

Ten years of Hyundai's peace-of-mind deal

By Steve Loader
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

HYUNDAI is celebrating the 10th anniversary of its five-year, unlimited-mileage warranty.

Groundbreaking at the time, few rivals have been moved to match or exceed it, though sister brand Kia now offers seven years, albeit with a 100,000 cap on mileage.

Looking back, though, it's not hard to see why the Korean marque was moved to such generosity: there was little else to attract UK buyers apart from price.

Hyundai's range then included the Accent and Elantra – two cheap yet forgettable cars that straddled the Ford Focus sector – and the 'tragic' Trajet people-carrier, which was roomy but had a horrible ride.

However, the original Santa Fe had arrived the year before and, while the visual appeal was dubious, there were signs of better things to come.

Then the Getz supermini made its debut in 2002 and was a revelation, even if the interior quality fell short of its rivals.

Ten years on, UK buyers hardly need the five-year warranty and Hyundai's value-for-money pricing and specifications to persuade them to buy.

Driving dynamics and interiors are vastly improved and, with a five-year model replacement cycle rather than the seven-year norm with Western carmakers, Hyundai has had plenty of opportunity to show how quickly it has mastered its art; last year's classy i40 range showed the brand now has the family car or Mondeo sector taped.

And this year has been a landmark, with the all-new Veloster coupé, the second-generation i30 family hatchback and Tourer (estate) and the soon-to-be-launched third-generation Santa Fe.

With the Veloster, Hyundai has created a unique proposition; a coupé that has a third door allowing easy access to rear seats from the passenger side of the car. Criticism that it lacked an engine with real performance was rebuffed by the arrival of a meatier, turbocharged model.

Meanwhile, the new i30 has become a genuine contender against the 'best of the West' – the VW Golf, Ford Focus and Vauxhall Astra – with the estate combining smart looks with huge load-carrying capacity.

And the latest Santa Fe, due in October, will make people question whether they want to pay more for a five- or seven-seat SUV when they can have a smart and well-made and equipped rival from £25,495. Hyundai has already posed the same question to compact-SUV buyers with its highly-successful ix35.

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Pictures: ADY KERRY



AMBITIOUS: Kent chief executive Jamie Clifford is keen to get it right first time as discussions begin on how to refurbish the Frank Woolley stand (second from left), after other buildings have seen improvement

CRICKET

Bold vision "essential" for club's future

By Greg Miles
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KENT need to continue on a bold and ambitious path, according to Kent chief executive Jamie Clifford, as they look to enter the next phase of redeveloping the St Lawrence Ground.

The county has embarked on a huge overhaul of its historic ground in the last 18 months with the Les Ames and Colin Cowdrey stands being transformed, while there are new administration offices, dressing rooms, press facilities, and more.

And now the county is pushing on with plans to re-develop the 90-year-old Frank Woolley stand. That development will take one of three forms, ranging in cost to an estimated £4million, depending on the scale of the idea.

Clifford feels it would be a missed opportunity if they held back on their ambitions.

"There are various options from simply repainting to re-cladding the existing frame to demolishing and rebuilding," he said. "We have got to work out what's achievable in building terms and then funding terms.

"Bearing in mind you only get one shot at it, it's stood there for more than 90 years so whatever we do is probably going to be there for a long time.

"We might as well make it as ambitious as we can.

"We want to think broad in what we might achieve and then hone in on what's achievable and what fits in with the rest of the ground. We have got to establish what's possible first.

"I think we should aim big - it would be wrong to think 'oh let's just give it a lick of paint'. We should be very bold, anything else might be selling ourselves a bit short. We have got to get it right."

Discussions will take place in the off season about what can be achieved in terms of the refurbishment and how it will be funded.

Clifford said it would be funded in a similar way to how the Colin Cowdrey stand refurbishment was, but stressed it wouldn't happen overnight.

"The Colin Cowdrey stand is a good example," he said. "It was achieved through grants, a couple of legacies, some traditional fundraising, and just a focus of where people's attentions are in terms of making something special happen.



"We are going to work very hard in the winter to understand what we can achieve. By the end of the winter we want to be very clear on what we are going to do.

"There will be a period of consultation at some stage. It's not going to be instant, fans will be sitting in the Woolley stand next year."

Fans may question why more fundraising needs to be done after the club sold land for a housing development which is all-but complete. The answer is that money has already been put to use, as Clifford explains: "Floodlights, services into the ground, the roadways, the infrastructure, the Les Ames stand and complete reconfiguration of that, the Colin Cowdrey stand conference space, the pavilion, dressing rooms, video analysis rooms, press facilities and the new club hub building.

"We have seen a massive improvement in our facilities; a transformation really."

A second part of the plans, which is more dependant on the recession, is the idea to build a hotel along the Old Dover Road side of the ground, for which the county was given planning permission in 2007.

"We are talking with a developer at the moment who may ultimately develop the site," he said. "We don't just want a box of a hotel that springs up in two weeks.

"We can't have that on the side of one of the most picturesque grounds in the country. It comes at a premium so the builder has to be confident they can deliver.

"There is a gap between the one we want to build and amount of money it will cost. That's scuppering us at the moment."

Clifford admitted that in an ideal world the hotel would have already been built.

"I believe Canterbruy does need a hotel of that style and scale. When the market recovers we should see more interest, we had developers falling over themselves before," he said. "We are now at the stage where there is the odd bit of interest and post recession that interest should return."

To save the county having to deal with a potential 'white elephant' the hotel would be leased to an operator rather than sold off.

"It would be done on a long lease so it's not a sale, but close to a sale," he said. "If something were to go wrong, you wouldn't end up with a building sitting empty."

MOTORSPORT

New series to re-energise single-seater racing, says Brands Hatch chief

BRANDS Hatch is set to host a round of a 'groundbreaking' new single-seater series next year.

The track's owner, MotorSport Vision (MSV), has created the Formula 4 Championship for junior drivers with the aim to provide a cost-effective stepping stone for youngsters wanting to make it to the top of the sport.

The series will be run in partnership with the British Racing Drivers' (BRDC) Club and MSV.

Teams will be encouraged to purchase and run the newly built BRDC Formula 4 cars alongside private family-run entries in a bid to create a healthy and competitive paddock. Teams wishing to join the championship will be limited to running a maximum of four cars. The cost of participation is expected to range from £35,000 for a private entrant to £70,000 for a professional team.



COMPETITIVE: The F4 series will give young talent a chance to rise to the top

MSV chief executive Jonathan Palmer said: "It is clear that British motorsport needs a new single-seater championship that really attracts the young talent of today to produce large competitive grids of drivers aiming for F1.

"At MSV we have used all of our considerable experience and judgment to launch what I think is a compelling package which I believe will re-energise this sector of motor racing.

"I am very excited about the prospects for the BRDC Formula 4 Championship and am delighted that our vision has been shared by the BRDC, whose president, Derek Warwick, has already demonstrated tremendous enthusiasm and interest in the detail operation of the championship.

"We are in an era of relative austerity, which looks like continuing for some years, and it is essential we provide young single seater drivers with an affordable path to learn and prove themselves.

"With F4 we have focused on four key areas; providing the lowest season running costs, the lowest car purchase price, the highest levels of car equality and highest safety standards."

F4 cars will be sold to competitors, whether teams or private entrants, who will operate the cars themselves. Palmer explained: "We want to enable both privateers to run cars competitively and welcome teams too.

"At this level costs can be lower if drivers look after cars themselves, with family and friends, though we are also keen for teams, existing and new, to run cars and provide valuable support to drivers."

MSV's race organising division MotorSport Vision Racing (MSVR) will run the championship, which will see drivers take part in 24 races across eight meetings.

The 2013 calendar will include races at Silverstone, Brands Hatch (on the Grand Prix circuit), Donington Park, Snetterton 300 and Oulton Park. At Brands Hatch it will support the prestiguous DTM series.

• For more information about the series and how to join, visit www.formula4.com.

FOOTBALL

Rance: Drop down leagues is a step back to go forward

By Greg Miles
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DOVER'S Dean Rance may still be just 20-years-old but he feels he's added years to his game by dropping into non-league football.

The midfielder made the switch to the Crabble this summer after his contract expired at Gillingham.

But now that he's found a regular starting position in Nicky Forster's side, he feels he's come on leaps and bounds.

"Even in this short period of time I'm starting to mature and develop as a player," he said. "The quality of the football in the conference is underestimated, I know if I'm not playing well I won't be playing on a Saturday.

"At Gillingham I wasn't playing or improving. Going into non-league is more about taking a step back to take two steps forward.

"I wasn't playing or getting chances, and I'm no different to any other player, I want to play football."

Rance spent part of last season on loan at Dover but it was short lived as he picked up an injury. He went back to Priestfield until his contract expired in May, and it wasn't long until he got a phone call from Forster.

"It was only a couple of days after and he said he wanted to sign me. I was going to speak to a few clubs, but I knew at the back of my mind I wanted to come here," he said.

Now that he's signed on as a permanent fixture he feels fully part of the Crabble family, a transition that's been made easier by the fact Dover train in Faversham, which is closer to his Gillingham home than the south coast.

"You feel more part of the team, you get to know the players a bit better – the runs they make. It's only going to help me when I'm out there on a Saturday," he said.

He admits he does miss being at Gillingham, especially now he has more time on his hands as he only trains two days a week.

But he is keeping himself busy in an assistant coaching role at the Pro Soccer Academy with former Dover striker and Gillingham team mate Adam Birchall.

"The main thing I do miss is the training everyday and being around the lads," he said. "I'm doing a bit of coaching at the moment. I'm not doing anything too serious. I want to concentrate on football for a bit longer to give myself a chance to develop.

"It was hard leaving Gillingham because I was there from such a young age – all I ever wanted to do was play for Gillingham. Like most kids I'm ambitious, I wanted to go through the ranks. There are no hard feelings at all though."

He joined the Gills as an eight-year-old, and finished the 2009–10 season as the youth team's top goalscorer. But he is yet to find the net with Dover, although he's hoping his fortunes may change under the tutelage of boss Forster who scored more than 200 goals in his career as a striker.

"I haven't scored yet, I have been playing a little bit more defensively, but I'm hoping the goals will come again," he said. "I was the top scorer for the youth team a few years ago."

Picture: ADY KERRY



DIRECTION: Rance happy he's on the right track

FOOTBALL

Taylor refuses to rule out an eventual return to Priestfield

FORMER Gillingham boss Peter Taylor hasn't ruled out a return to the club one day after admitting he was in contact with chairman Paul Scally during the summer when the position was vacant.

Taylor was in charge when the Gills were promoted to the old Division One via the play-offs in the 1999/2000 season, and is now manager of Bahrain.

While the former Dover boss said he'd been in contact with Scally about a role at the club he wouldn't reveal how he would have been involved after Andy Hessenthaler stepped down.

"I spoke to Paul [Scally] about a few things," he said. "Things like different roles at clubs, it wasn't so much me coming back but we touched on it a bit.

"He knows deep down I want to come back one day.

"If there's a job there one day who knows? I need to sort out this little adventure, and we were aware of that when we talked. I signed an agreement here and I would like to see it out."

He admitted he misses the day-to-day management in England and would look to return to British shores once his two-year deal in the Middle East expires next summer.



VACANCY: Taylor and Scally talked

"There's a lot of me that misses English football," he said. "I do miss the Saturdays, people don't realise how lucky they are.

"The players here they don't realise how strong it is, some probably feel they could do well, but they couldn't do more than the Conference, not so much because of their ability but because of the strength and desire needed to play 40 matches a year."

RUGBY

Can new academy deliver the results for Folkestone?

FOLKESTONE are hoping their first team can reap the rewards of their new academy set-up this term.

The London 3 South East club built the academy last season and hope that some of the youngsters can force their way into the first team this season.

Chairman Andy Dagger insisted the club wouldn't dip into its finances to bring players to the club but hoped to create a conveyor belt of talent.

"We set up an academy last year and so it will be the first season that academy players will be appearing in the first team," he said. "It's a club we are trying to build and grow for the future.

"We are not one to buy players in, we have definitely gone down the route of building through the academy. We have had a couple of new players come in, one from Gibraltar, one from Dover and one from Canterbury."

The club's pre-season results have given reason for encouragement with a 29-0 win over Fullerians, and a 42-14 victory against Thanet Wands, after losing their opening game against Charlton Park 28-24. Dagger is confident they can challenge near the top this season.



FUTURE: Folkestone look to youth

"We finished third last year and we won the last game of the season over a side that had been promoted," he said. "We are going to be up there after the early pre-season performances."

ROWING



ACCIDENTS: Freak injuries ended Olympic hope

Injury-hit Ritchie back on track at Euros, but honeymoon can wait

DAN Ritchie has put his honeymoon on hold for four years in a bid to make it to the Rio Olympics and is getting back to competitive action after injury this weekend at the European Championships.

The 25-year-old married his partner of six years a fortnight ago but doesn't have time for the traditional honeymoon, and is instead hoping to tag it on the end of the next Olympics in Brazil after competing for Team GB.

His chances of competing at the home Games last month in the men's eights, who won bronze, were wrecked by two bizarre injuries earlier this year (his knee on his stag do, and ankle while walking up the stairs) meaning is he is more determined than ever to become an Olympian.

But first up for the two-time world silver medallist from Herne Bay is the Euros in Italy this weekend where he will row in the quadruple sculls.

"I was really unfortunate with my injuries. That's the way it is," he said. "I'm still young, I'm only 25. There are lots of opportunities for me to succeed later on in rowing.

"A lot of my success has been at the very beginning of my career. As I mature I'm hoping to peak at 29, or 30. My wife is quite keen for me to carry on so I'm pretty excited about the future.

"My wife was a rower so she can understand the commitment that is needed."

He admitted it was difficult to watch the boat he could have been in winning bronze at Eton Dorney,

"There were a lot of emotions. They filmed me watching the race, and it was quite difficult watching it back," he said. "There was part of me that was dying inside because they were competing without me. It was quite hard to get my head around it."

He said his injury has given him a new-found appreciation for the sport.

"It helped being injured. It's helped me appreciate everything that you normally take for granted. I spent four months not being able to walk. For a long time I couldn't do things," he said. "Everything is put into perspective, so now I appreciate the fact I can row. I make every session count because I don't know when I might not be able to do it again."

• Ritchie is sponsored by Canterbury's Broad Oak BMW.

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